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21 January 2020

Tree Team  
Planning Department  
Camden Council  
Townhall  
Judd Street  
London WC1H 9JE

Dear Sirs

**Re: Tree Applications 2020-0038-T / 2020-0040-T**

I am writing to you in relation to the above two applications for works to a tree at 13 Wilmot Place.

All of the trees covered by these requests are significant both in their own right and in terms of the amenity of the street and surrounding properties. In particular, the rear eucalyptus is a local haven for wildlife.

Clearly mature trees of this size are few and far between and once gone will never be replaced by something anywhere near the same size.

The applicant's rationale for the removal is entirely down to their engineer's report on the single crack between the rear extension and the main house. It is a well known fact that London clay shrinks and expands, most houses along this street exhibit cracks caused by these movements. Similar historic cracks were noted in the engineer's report which were not the subject of his concern and it is quite likely that with the winter rains that this crack will shrink as the clay expands.

The report clearly finds no evidence linking the trees to this particular crack. None of the tests bores or trial pit evidenced roots near to the property. Thus, the suggestion that these trees are the problem is at best circumstantial and possibly flawed.

I ask why this application is being made before the final results of the engineer's soil tests have been reported on especially as the only justification being put forward is the Engineer Report. The report says these tests will show more specifically if any tree roots are present. I request the Council not to take any action prior to these results becoming available to all interested parties.

I would point out that to the rear of 13 Wilmot there are numerous elements of vegetation, of substantial size, nearer to the property than the eucalyptus. These elements of vegetation are not mentioned, why are these not being removed first?

If it is your opinion that works need to be done to the tree, may I ask that it is the minimum height and size reduction – so that the amenity of the area is preserved.

Kind regards



Peter Everest

