

From: Putachad Leyland [REDACTED]  
Sent: 26 April 2020 10:44  
To: Little, Tom [REDACTED]  
Subject: Application Ref: 2020/1596/T

For the attention of Mr Tom Little

Dear Mr Little,

I am writing with reference to the above application to fell the ash tree at the rear of 26 Daleham Gardens.

The aforementioned property and its trees within the rear wall abut Daleham Mews, contributing to the very special decorative character of its western side. The garden, and especially its trees, have been enjoyed by residents over a prolonged period (several of us have been residents for over 20 years). In addition, many living in the locality walking their dogs and taking exercise have commented on the greenness of this charming mews.

In view of the collective enjoyment derived from this magnificent ash tree we object strongly to the proposal to remove the tree. Moreover, the claim that it is harbouring harmful fungus would appear to be spurious. It is well known that not all types of fungus are related to *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (Ash dieback disease). Indeed, the survival of this apparently healthy ash tree suggests that it has not been affected by the disease. This could perhaps be because of its relatively isolated position, distanced from other diseased ash trees.

Before any action is taken we would like to insist that experts operating for Camden Council inspect the tree. Clearly the findings need to be reported to residents and only acted upon if it is certified that evidence of disease exists. If there is insufficient justification for such drastic action we expect you, as final arbiter, to prevent the tree from being felled. It takes only a few minutes to cut down a tree but more than a human lifetime for one to grow to this size.

Hampstead is renowned as a leafy green and pleasant haven we expect you to ensure it retains its unique character.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Putachad Leyland  
Professor Peter Leyland  
[REDACTED]