

Application ref: 2020/1836/T
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Date: 11 June 2020

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Moulton Tree Services
125 Framfield Road
Hanwell
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W7 1NQ

Dear Sir/Madam

DECISION

Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 (as amended)
Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation Order) Regulations 1999

REFUSAL OF CONSENT FOR WORKS TO TREE/S UNDER A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER

Address:
36 West Hill Park
London
N6 6ND

Proposal:
REAR GARDEN: 1 x Silver Birch (T1) - Reduction of this tree by 2 to 3m in line with annotated photo and the rest trimmed and shaped to tidy.

The Council has considered your application dated 27 April 2020 and decided to refuse consent for the following reason(s):

Reason(s) for Refusal

- 1 The application is for a crown reduction of a birch tree in line with an annotated photo that was included with submission. The works proposed on the application form are for a 3-4m crown reduction. The tree is in the rear garden of a residential property that is situated within the Highgate Village Conservation Area. The birch tree is considered to significantly contribute to the character and appearance of this part of the conservation area and provide a high level of visual amenity to the residents of West Hill Park. The tree is considered to be a good example of its species and is of pleasing form. The tree appears to be in at least fair condition structurally and physiologically based

on the photo submitted.

The wording on the application form is for "a reduction of this tree by 3/4 from the crown" which The Council interpreted as 75%. The agent has since clarified that 3-4m was the intended pruning specification. The annotated photo shows a line where the tree is proposed to be reduced to. The tree has dual leaders in the upper crown, the application seeks to remove both of these. Birch trees do not tolerate heavy pruning well. The proposed works are considered harmful to the long-term health of the tree and the visual amenity the tree provides.

The justification for the proposed works is "This will help to reduce light blockage and also make the tree more suitable for the tight space that it occupies. It has a lot of height and when in full bloom, it blocks a lot of height and causes anxiety to the residents in high winds."

No further details have been submitted. The justification for the works is not considered proportionate to the level of harm caused to the tree and what it provides to residents.

The application has been refused to protect the visual amenity the tree provides and the character and appearance of the conservation area.

Informative(s):

1

If you are unhappy with the Council's decision you may appeal within 28 days of the date of this notice by writing to The Environment Team, Room 4/04, Kite Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN.

Yours faithfully



Daniel Pope
Chief Planning Officer

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