

From: David

Sent: 04 August 2020 11:57

To: Planning **Subject:** 5 BELSIZE AVENUE, NW3 4BL. APPLICATION REF. 2020/3125/T

Dear Sirs

We are the Managing Agents of 5 Belsize Avenue, on behalf of the Residents Association.

I have been forwarded a copy of your letter dated 21 July, which was only received by Flat 6 on 31 July, 10 days after the date of issue, where you have given 21 days of your letter to make any comment. However, we have lost almost half that time already, and I would ask if we could kindly request an extension.

Firstly, you have addressed the notice to the owner/occupiers of Flat 6, surely you could have found out the actual names of the owners, as most of 5 Belsize Avenue are non-resident Landlords, who would not receive this correspondence. It was only by chance that one of the other owners forwarded this communication to me.

I will be passing on this information to all the Flat owners at 5 Belsize Avenue for their comments, and will ask them to make any observations.

I note on the report from Crawford that they have not ruled out the presence of superficial deposits at shallow depth, and request that a full geotechnical survey be undertaken before any of the trees at 3, 5 or 7 Belsize Avenue are felled.

I further note from their observations that the trees and shrubs nearby may have roots that extend beneath the foundations, again I cannot see that this has been proven.

From my clients point of view, I think we need to see evidence that our tree has any effect on the neighbouring property, as at the moment, it is speculation and assumption.

I attach a photograph taken last summer of the sycamore tree in 5 Belsize Avenue, and you can see it is some way from the neighbouring property, and probably further than assumed by Crawford.

The mature sycamore located in the garden of 5 Belsize Avenue is within a Conservation Area, and should be preserved. The loss of this tree will affect the views from my clients' property, and the neighbouring properties who overlook it. The tree is also home to many birds so has a high amenity value.

Is there the possibility that the removal of our tree could lead to heave rather than subsidence as it is taking water out of the ground?

I am sure my clients will raise further objections to this proposed work and I will be writing to you again shortly in this regard.

In the meantime, I welcome your comments on the above.

Kind regards

David Barnett

