

From: Sarah Oppenheimer
Sent: 12 April 2021 20:16
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application ref - 2021/1333/T

Dear Camden Council,

I have become aware that a second application to fell the protected black poplar tree in the garden of my flat 103A Torriano Avenue NW5 2RX, has been made and I am writing to register my intense opposition to this proposal.

The *protected* Black Poplar tree is pollarded every 5 years, and has been growing in the garden of 103A Torriano Avenue for many decades. I bought the flat in 1997 when it was already a mature tree, and is probably the oldest tree in the vicinity and therefore has a rather historic status. During all the time I have owned the flat I have carefully managed it to prevent issues of subsidence, and it distresses me greatly to discover that for a second time removal has been requested without first looking into management options for such an important tree.

As you will know, [black poplars are extremely rare](#) nowadays, and this particular tree is extremely important for local wildlife, as well as being a source of great joy and wellbeing to neighbours and providing the environmental services of carbon sequestration, and air purification, as well as shade and important wildlife habitat. When living in the flat 103A I saw a great many bird species use the tree, including the extremely rare [middle spotted woodpecker](#) which I was thrilled to have in my garden, but which I fear has probably disappeared from the area. Many other local birds also visited the garden and tree and some nested in it, including blue tits, coal tits, great tits, jays, blackbirds, redwings, greenfinches and goldfinches.

I object absolutely to the removal of the tree, but am totally available to discuss improving its management to minimise adverse affects on neighbouring properties.

We all need to learn to live with more, rather than fewer trees in our cities. This is vital from a local through to a global scale, and as an enlightened council on environmental matters, I would expect Camden to find a solution that works with rather than against nature, and would be horrified by a destructive decision to fell.

I am very happy to discuss this further

I look forward to hearing from you,

Your sincerely

Sarah Oppenheimer