

From: GA HOUGHTON
Sent: 04 March 2022 23:09
To: Planning
Subject: Objection 2022/0419/T

Dear Camden Council,

The two plane trees at 8 Doughty Street should and must remain! This is certainly not the first time that there have been attempts to destroy these fine trees, which, in fact, pose no real threat to the EES buildings as they are falsely - and knowingly so - claiming.

After living in this neighbourhood for over three decades, the majority of my friends' children have attended St. George's Primary School - originally housed in what are now the October Gallery premises. Then Education Minister Margaret Thatcher organised the building of a new school there as the old one was unfit for purpose - and considered dangerous to the health of the Camden children studying in Old Gloucester Street. That kind of decision is what government should be doing - building new schools, improving old facilities that are now showing their age - and listening to the needs of their citizens. Cutting down trees is the exact opposite of what Camden ought to be doing - especially during this pandemic crisis - with the threat of nuclear war creeping closer all the time. Enlightened councils are worrying about those issues and are not making things worse: they are certainly not eradicating trees that are a necessary part of the solution.

These two grand old plane trees are an essential part of our local history. In this time of worsening environmental crisis and atrocious air quality in London, the idea of destroying trees that provide protection at all levels - from clean air quality to environmental protection of habitats for many different animal, plant and bird species is not simply shortsighted - it is monumentally self-destructive as well.

Camden Council is meant to protect the well-being of its citizens - not destroy the quality of their environment and the safety and well-being of the community of all its citizens.

Stop this ridiculous initiative - now.

Best regards,

Gerard Houghton

Gerard Houghton
Director of Special Projects
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