

54 Dukes Avenue
Muswell Hill
London N10 2PU



9th November 2022

Development Management Support
Planning Service
Level 6, River Park House
225 High Road
London N22 8HQ

Dear Planners

Planning application HGY/2022/2764 : 27 Dukes Avenue

We are writing to state our objections to the application which has been made to remove the London plane tree which stands in the rear garden of the property at 27 Dukes Avenue in Muswell Hill. In our view this application, one which has been made before, is completely without merit. At that time, some trimming to the tree took place, but the work was carried out on one side of the tree and thus (perhaps by design) exaggerated the angle at which the tree inclines towards the road, creating a sense of instability. We assume that the owner's ambitions to construct a house in the rear garden of the property is not unconnected with their wish to remove the tree since this would undoubtedly ease the building process. The application does seem also to involve the owners of the neighbouring property in Elms Avenue, though it seems doubtful to us that the plane tree could be responsible for damage that may have occurred to that property as it sits on the extreme opposite side of a very wide garden. However, if it were proved to be the case that the tree had caused structural damage to either of the properties concerned, then we believe that remedial action should be taken to support the property rather than destroying a tree which has stood for well over 100 years.

The amenity value of this tree cannot be over emphasised; it is a glorious thing. But we are mindful too of its contribution to improving air quality on this busy road and the consequent health benefits, something which we are sure is high on the agenda of all officers and councillors in Haringey, as well as the London Mayor.

Yours sincerely

Brian and Rosalind Spinks
