

James Argles

From: Planning Support
Subject: FW: Tree removal - HGY/2023/0827

From: Chair NLSD
Sent: 28 April 2023 17:44
Subject: Tree removal - HGY/2023/0827

I want to make sure our objections, as the owners of Scout Park, have been registered with regard to this.

As a charity offering outdoor experiences to the young people of Harigey, we strongly object to the application to remove this oak tree in Scout Park in Bounds Green. Scout Park is an oasis of green in a very built up area of Haringey and removal of a long-established tree will have a significant impact on the park.

The main reasons for our objection are:

1. The tree has a TPO (tree protection order)
2. The complainant's insurers, Crawford, state on the planning page that the effects to the house structure is 'slight'. The soil is clay and with the two summer droughts we have experienced, this is likely to be a significant factor in the subsidence. There are many factors that influence subsidence and these should be fully monitored and assessed.
3. The tree is quite a distance (18.5m) away from the house.
4. There are other proven methods to manage the risk of subsidence from trees such as tree pruning, crown reduction, root barriers, and adequate underpinning.
5. This is not the first time the complainant has claimed the tree is causing subsidence, we have removed several large shrubs as a result of this prior claim. The effect of the oak tree was considered not to be significant at that time.
5. There is a risk of further damage to the soil and buildings from the removal of a large tree. The tree was there before the house was built, which adds to the risk of increased instability of the ground (heave).
6. There is extensive waterlogging in the area and in the Scout Park, and trees provide vital structure to the soil to improve drainage and reduce runoff.
7. An oak tree provides habitat for over 2,300 species of life providing a vital wildlife resource and is a critical source of CO2 carbon capture.
8. It takes 156 new trees to replace one mature Oak tree.
9. We are in a climate and ecological emergency and Haringey Council announced a climate emergency in 2019 and has pledged to increase canopy cover by 30%. <https://www.haringey.gov.uk/news/tough-action-pipeline-protect-mature-trees>
10. Young people, our Scouts, and our community in general, need trees for our wellbeing and mental health.

Yours,

Stephen Way (He/Him)
Chair of Trustees
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