

PROTECTED TREE REPORT (TREE WORKS)

Haringey Council, L4,
Alexandra House, Station
Road N22 7TY

Application number	HGY/2023/2331
Application type	Conservation Area Notification
Site Address:	4 Stanhope Gardens, Hornsey, London, N6 5TS
Proposal	T1 - Willow tree - tree is located at the bottom of the garden and is heavily leaning over the neighbouring property. Tree has been gradually over the last couple of years been leaning more and more and we are now concerned about the tree falling over and damaging the neighbours property. Fell tree and replant with a suitable replacement.

RECOMMENDATION:	No Objection	
Application date	29/08/2023	
Tree Inspector	DM	Date: 12 th October 2023

Site

The willow *Salix* spp. tree T1, as marked on the plan and shown in the photographs, is situated in the rear garden of the property. It is not publicly visible.

A site visit was deemed necessary to determine the appropriateness of the proposed works (11/10/2023 at approximately 13:30).

The location is also within the Highgate Conservation Area. This protects every tree with a diameter at breast height (taken at 1.5m) >75mm.

Proposal

Tree works proposed.

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Issues

I hold no objections to the removal of the medium to large leaning willow tree.

The tree is on a south facing slope and what appears to be a small gorge/ ravine line.

The tree has been reduced in the past.

There is dead cambium and peeling bark at the base on the tension side. Willows are fast growing, short lived, and weak wood species. A sound test with a nylon mallet indicated no hollow sounds on the main stem and trunk base. The root bole showed no movement. The tree has lost a branch in the past and this makes the morphology unbalanced and poor.

Phototropism has caused the tree to grow at an acute angle >45 degrees and over hangs the smaller adjacent gardens including an outbuilding. All the trees along this bank are showing similar growth patterns.

To pollard the willow lower than previous would leave an even further poorly formed tree with the re growth reaching for the light quickly again. This willow is in a confined space and does not have the room to grow the magnificent large crowns that they are capable of when sited in the correct place.

The large garden is planted and landscaped with many fine plants and is rich for biodiversity. There are many trees, fruit trees and fine large trees on all boundaries. The greenery and trees add to the overall green corridors and designated sites in Highgate, Hampstead and beyond. The removal of the willow will not fragment or affect the green corridor.

I am satisfied that the copse area where the willow tree grows will have natural succession from the seed bank and that the screening and privacy for the properties is not affected.

A methodology to rate the worthiness for a Tree Preservation Order would score the willow low, the tree has no overall public visibility or amenity value.

Recommendation

No Objection