

James Argles

From: Planning Support
Subject: FW: Maintenance of trees at Abyssinia Court N8 9PL

Sent: Wednesday, 21 September 2022 at 19:57:57 BST
Subject: Maintenance of trees at Abyssinia Court N8 9PL

Hello Matthew,

Ref: HGY/2022/2175

I am aware that I have missed the official deadline of 14 September for response to the above application, but I have been extremely busy responding to other calls on my time for Haringey Council regarding accessibility in relation to the recent introduction of the Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs) and last week's Scrutiny Committee Café. As a disabled person, there is only so much I can cope with at any one time.

I am the local resident who spearheaded the campaign to prevent Hornsey Housing Trust, the housing association which runs Abyssinia Court, felling all the trees on its property back in 2018. I did this by networking with Catherine West MP, local councillors, local residents, other supportive members of the community and the Council staff responsible for putting in place initially an emergency and later the permanent Tree Protection Order.

I don't have any problems in principle with the trees being reduced in height for the purposes of maintenance and won't be objecting to that. I am concerned however that 'previous reduction points' does not specify what that height is, nor if it is the most recent reduction point, or an earlier one of lesser height. I am hoping that the height to which the trees will be reduced is no less than that when they were maintained in March 2019 following an application to do so in November 2018 (of which local residents were not informed).

I would also hope that a reputable company who will fully comply with the terms of the planning application will be employed, such as C and A Blaney who carried out the work in 2019.

Underlying my concern is the fact that the management of Hornsey Housing Trust made it very clear at the time of the campaign that they were vehemently opposed to the trees remaining in position and I was subsequently informed by residents that a senior manager 'hated' me for having ensured the trees were protected. No doubt you can therefore appreciate my nervousness whenever people with chainsaws appear on site at Abyssinia Court.

I have looked at the planning application on the planning portal, but it does not provide any details further to those in your letter. I would therefore be extremely grateful if you could provide reassurance regarding:

- the reduction point in question and
- the company who will physically undertake the maintenance work.

Finally, please could you let me know when the work will be carried out (should you know), so that I can alert my neighbours who were previously active in supporting me in the initial campaign to save the trees?

Preferably, if it is not too late to do so, I would be grateful if you could make it a condition of planning consent that Hornsey Housing Trust needs to inform its near neighbours on Weston Park and Mayfield and Denton Roads of the planned date for the works a reasonable amount of time in

advance. This is because the Trust's management do not communicate with us concerning the dates of any works of any type whatsoever and many local residents are elderly and/or disabled and will feel anxious if without any prior warning they suddenly see chainsaws being taken to the trees they fought hard to protect.

Thank you so much in anticipation of your assistance.

Best wishes,

Amanda Jacobs

146 Weston Park
Crouch End
London N8 9PN