



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 July 2021 13:28
To: david.parkin@northtyneside.gov.uk
Cc: Julia Dawson <Julia.Dawson@northtyneside.gov.uk>
Subject: Tree Preservation Order 2021: Carlyle Court, Willington Quay

EXTRNL

I am writing this submission in favour of granting a permanent tree preservation order for the cherry tree located at Carlyle Court.

As can be seen in the attached picture, the tree is a magnificent example of an ornamental cherry, which is at its peak blossom in the month of May. The tree is a valuable and colourful asset to the cul de sac and provides a pleasant focal point in what would otherwise be a rather bland vista, located as it is, more or less centrally between the busy thoroughfares of Hadrian Road and Bewicke Road. It is the only significant tree in this street and I am not aware of any other tree of this type in the village. It provides structural elegance throughout the year and is a valuable amenity not only for the residents but also to the local bird population.

In a post-industrial area - where there are significant issues regarding pollution and threats to the local environment, I am sure the committee will know full well the value trees provide in helping to neutralise carbon emissions - but this tree deserves special protection because of its outstanding beauty and location and the recent threat of its destruction.

Indeed, let me just briefly outline the background as to what has precipitated the TPO application. Despite having no established ownership or right to destroy the tree and without consultation, a private landlord had ordered the felling of the tree and it was only saved at the very last moment by my pleas to the sympathetic tree surgeon. Interestingly, the contractor - The Gosforth Tree Surgeon - confirmed the tree was a very good example of its genus, was in rude health and was not a threat to the houses in the area. He was happy to leave the job and plead the case to save the tree to his hirer. Nevertheless, the landlord- through his intermediaries at the letting office - insisted upon its total destruction. I believe without my initial intervention, the support of neighbours and then subsequently, the involvement of the council, the tree would have been destroyed at the next convenient opportunity.

In pleading the case for the granting of a TPO for the reasons outlined above, I would acknowledge that the lifespans of cherry trees are pointedly shorter than most trees and it is precisely this point that cherry trees and in particular, their blossom, are so revered in far Eastern culture; "it represents the fragility and the beauty of life. It's a reminder that life is almost overwhelmingly beautiful but that it is also tragically short."

A TPO order for this important tree should supersede the vagaries of house ownership or the whims of private landlords. The tree should be recognised as a community asset, so that others can enjoy the tree in its location and it can see out its natural lifespan, protected and safe.

Yours Sincerely,
Graeme Cansdale