

**From:** Peter Pitkin <trees@grangeassociation.com>  
**Sent:** 11 July 2020 13:29  
**To:** Steve Milne  
**Cc:** Nigel Ayton; lucy richardson  
**Subject:** 20/02749/TCO 17 Cumin Place EH9 2JX

20/02749/TCO 17 Cumin Place Edinburgh EH9 2JX

Dear Steve,

On behalf of the Grange Association - but also from a personal point of view - I feel I must comment on this alarming proposal.

The applicant proposes to fell two very substantial lime trees. Mature lime trees are an important feature of the Grange conservation area – these are the only ones of this age or size on Cumin Place and are comparable (and possibly contemporary) with those on (e.g.) Mansionhouse Road.

The trees are c. 60 ft and clearly over 100 years old – possibly planted when the house was built. As the largest and most conspicuous trees on Cumin Place, they are an important feature of the streetscape, particularly on the approach (south) from Grange Road. The trunk of the one nearer the house is upwards of 3ft in diameter at its base but forks at c. 1.5m into stems of c.2ft diam. These fork again at C.10ft giving four (?+) stems of c.18ins. The other tree is single-stemmed with a trunk of c. 2ft 6ins. Its crown is slightly less bulky. The foliage of the two differs slightly. The one nearer the road is a somewhat darker green with more of a drooping appearance – but they may well just be different clones of the same thing (I'm assuming *Tilia x europaea*, but couldn't reach the leaves).

Both trees appear to have been pollarded (as were many of the older limes in the Grange), but a long time ago, and in spite of what the notification describes as 'included bark', both are clearly healthy and vigorous. The notification shows what it claims are exposed roots – I doubt whether these are part of the main root system; they appear to have arisen where soil has been piled up around the base of both trunks.

Both trees are close to the wall separating no.17 from no.19 and have very likely caused some damage or distortion in the past. But this isn't a high wall, it is not distorted at present and it is not a wall adjoining a public pavement.

If the owner is concerned about proximity to the house, branches of the tree nearest the house could be cut back on one side without detracting from pair's very considerable amenity value. Felling them would involve a significant loss to the amenity of the street and, indeed, the conservation area.

I hope these comments might be some help, at least in flagging up the case.

Regards,

P.P.

On behalf of the Grange Association

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