

Application N	Consultees Name	Recipient Address	Received	Comment	Response
2025/1301/P	Simon Levy	117 Gaisford Street	25/04/2025 12:53:05	OBJ	<p>I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the misguided proposal of replacing a well-loved and well-used picnic area, sandpit, and public green space, with a pay-to-play padel court.</p> <p>Thankfully there has already been an outpouring of objection from the local community, and that does mean that I will be reiterating points already made - however, I believe it is worth making those points repeatedly, until the local community's voice is heard on this matter.</p> <p>We are told that the initial consultation period - which, as a previous comment has pointed out, was hardly publicised by those proposing the padel court - ended up with 50.5% of the 217 respondents being in favour of the plan. 50.5% of 217 is 109.585 - how exactly was a vote recieved from 0.585 of a person? I don't think these numbers add up. Would it be possible to publish how the 50.5% vs 49.5% conclusion was reached?</p> <p>Dodgy maths aside, it feels incredibly telling that, following a period of increased publicity, and much word-of-mouth opposition, the pro-padel contingent now numbers just 5, versus around 80 people who have expressed their disapproval in quite strong terms on this website (not to mention the heroic local schoolgirl whose petition includes over 100 people who are in opposition to the plan). And if you're wondering how I came to a total of 5, not 6, it's because I am discounting the letter of support from the Lawn Tennis Association - not only is there clearly a conflict of interest having them support this proposal, but they are not based in the local area, and are a commercial organisation who would benefit financially from a padel court being built in our local park. I can only assume that you will be discounting them too when you tally up the numbers.</p> <p>As I said above, many people have already outlined the multitude of reasons why locating a padel court in Cantelowes Park is a terrible idea, but I will re-state them nonetheless:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The padel court would remove yet more PUBLIC green space, in favour of another tarmacked pay-to-play area. 2. We would lose a sandpit of great importance for local children. The nearest alternative sandpit is some distance away. And not only that, it's a design of some significance, and so has cultural importance, as well as in terms of physical education and recreation. We have been told that it could be replaced, but it doesn't feature in any of the latest plans. I strongly suspect it would not be replaced. 3. We would lose a well-used picnic area, the location of regular gatherings and birthday parties for local children, as well as a space for parents to keep an eye on their kids in the playground. Again, apparently this might be "reprovided", but fails to feature in the latest plans. 4. There would be significant environmental disruption in building this court. I am not an expert on this front, but others have pointed out that this would contravene Camden's environmental guidelines.

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					<p>5. The court itself will be an eyesore, blocking the currently open views from the playground and west side of the park towards the other end of the park.</p> <p>6. In addition, it will create noise pollution for local residents and light pollution from the floodlights. How late at night will people be using this court? And how will they get into a park that closes at dusk? Will the park be left open late at night, allowing for antisocial behaviour?</p> <p>7. Padel is a relatively new sport. Who's to say there will be a sustained demand for it? Is it worth ripping the soul out of a much-loved local park for a court that could well be empty in the near-future?</p> <p>And just for the record, I really don't appreciate the sneery tone that the proposal has had towards the Save Our Sandpit campaign and the Camden New Journal articles. I am incredibly grateful to both for increasing awareness, and am delighted there has been such an outpouring of support for our local park.</p> <p>I hope the council will listen to overwhelming public opinion.</p>
2025/1301/P	Bartholomew Estate and Kentish Town CAAC	71 Patshull Road LONDON NW5 2LE	25/04/2025 18:41:20	OBJ	<p>we object to this application on the following grounds .``loss of amenities for a large number of children , which will be replaced by an amenity for youths/adults</p> <p>The hight of the padel court will be seen from the houses in Bartholomew road that back onto Cantellows Gardens .</p> <p>Padel is a noisy game , that will also require lights after dark and during the winter , this will cause both noise and light pollution to the houses that back onto the site and are in the area of the CAAC</p>

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2025/1301/P	Leanne Keltie	60A Gaisford Street	26/04/2025 22:27:49	OBJ	<p>I object to this planning application for the following three reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed location of the Padel court in Cantelowes park should be re-considered because it would result in the demolition of most of the children's play area and sand pit plus picnic tables that are very well used and which create social cohesion and connection for people who live in the local area. The planning statement indicates that Camden is committed to re-providing the play area, sandpit and picnic benches, but no evidence is provided of approved and committed budgets for that re-provision, design proposals that would be acceptable or timelines for delivery. Given the current economic climate, it is likely the Padel court would be built and the children's play area would never be re-provided or would take many years to be re-provided. In the meantime, all of the young people, families and local people who currently use these areas would have no alternative facilities nearby. The location of the Padel Court in the park should be reconsidered and coordinated with the wider review of the park that is referred to in the documents. 2. The proposed location is not suitable for operating as described in the planning application. It would not be safe for women and girls to use after dusk and would prevent women and girls from using the facility after dark. It should be relocated so that it can be entered directly from Camden Road like the pitches are. The Design and Access Statement describes floodlighting the Padel Court and indicates it will be open until 10pm weekdays and 9pm weekends. However, it does not acknowledge that the park is currently closed and locked at dusk every evening throughout the year. In order for the proposed location of the Padel Court to be used after dusk, Camden would need to change its entire operational policies for the park and would need to leave at least one gate open and unlocked for anyone to enter the park up until 9pm and 10pm, or they would need to provide security throughout a dark park, which is not lit after dusk apart from the football pitches. Is Camden planning to leave the gates unlocked in order to allow visitors to use the Padel Court? If not, how would users access the Padel Court in the middle of the park when the gates are locked? If the gates are intended to be left open, what additional security measures will be put in place to prevent anti-social behaviour in the park after dusk and to ensure safety for women and girls using the Padel Court or using the park after dusk? Has the Met Police Designing Out Crime Officer commented on the design and this application? I would not want to walk through the park in the dark to a floodlit Padel Court when any criminal could be hiding in the dark. In order for the Padel court to be safe for women and girls after dusk, or anyone else for that matter, it should be re-located to have its entrance directly onto Camden Road, just like the existing pitches. The park is too large to ensure safety of women and girls using the Padel Court after dusk if the gates are left open. Are Camden proposing that no women or girls should use the Padel Court after dusk? If so, please publish the equality impact assessment demonstrating that this has been considered and is an acceptable risk. 3. The planning statement indicates the Padel court is fulfilling a community need and is designed for local people, but it does not provide pricing or booking information that will ensure people who live locally and currently use the park would be prioritised to book the new courts over and above players and coaches who could be coming from much further distances. If there are so few Padel Courts in London and demand is so high as described in the application, it is very likely to be highly booked by people from outside of Camden.

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2025/1301/P	Justin	53 Corinne Road N19 5EZ	26/04/2025 23:05:38	OBJ	<p>I wish to raise my objection to this application.</p> <p>Cantelowes Gardens already has a great provision of outdoor activities.</p> <p>This plan will result in the loss of the only young family area of the gardens with no clearly stated mitigation plan. There are no other similar locations to replace this. This green area next to the playground and sandpit is an integral part of the park.</p> <p>The site plan posted on the gates does not match the planning application site plan or the site plan displayed on the councils consultation/information page. The result of this is the public not being correctly informed of the extent of this planning proposal.</p> <p>Please consider the impact the loss of this green space will have on local families and the environment.</p>

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2025/1301/P	Patrik Vanheyden	15 Sandall Road	27/04/2025 23:25:48	OBJ	<p>I would like to object against building the padel court in Cantelowes Gardens.</p> <p>My main point is that it will further cut into one of the few places around here where children of all ages can play a bit more wildly - on grass, in the sandpit and on the play areas. Cantelowes Gardens is a small park and already caters to football players, skaters, sunbathers, dog walkers, teenagers. With the padel court there will be just so much less space for the children to run around, chase each other, observe each other's play, build something in the sandpit, play with a ball or their toys, just hang around or have picnics with their friends and families. A more technical point is that it will be much more difficult for parents to keep their children in view with the padel court located in between the play area and whatever remains of the sandpit.</p> <p>In addition, the padel court will impact the use of the park for adults as well as it is right in the middle of the park. At the moment there is a green crescent around the utility building stretching from the northern Camden Road entrance to the southern Camden Road entrance. This crescent will essentially be cut in two reduced halves by the court. Looking at the current users, the grass areas are the second most utilised areas of the park (the skateboarding area is the one most used per square foot, the "gym/basketball" area also gets a fair amount of use, the football pitch is often empty, though, and most dog owners seem to prefer to not use the fenced off dog exercising area). All the current users of the grass areas will lose out because of a padel court that can be used by only four people at a time (and probably will be empty a lot of times as well).</p> <p>It would be very easy to have padel courts in Regents Park and/or on the Heath. There is plenty of space and it would be much easier for padel players to travel there than for the local families with children who use Cantelowes Gardens as a small piece of nature that's close to their homes.</p> <p>I'd also like to comment on the "Cantelowes Gardens Padel Court Engagement Feedback". My expectation was that this "feedback" was supposed to be written with a neutral perspective. Instead, it tried to devalue the voices against the padel court by tying them to an article in the CNJ as if it were nefarious that a local newspaper reported skeptically on the plan. (Interestingly, it didn't tie the voices for the padel court to the pop-up engagement sessions where the plan was presented in the most positive light.)</p>
2025/1301/P	Hilary Westlake	54 Patshull Road London NW5 2LD	26/04/2025 14:47:38	COMMNT	<p>Cantelowes Gardens is a special local space where people of all ages can go to read, meet or take their children. It is a quiet space. The sand pit, with its picnic benches, is greatly enjoyed by children and provides an area for those responsible for them. To convert this to a padel court would not only deprive the local users of this calm aspect of the Gardens, but would be a noisy, intrusion to an otherwise relatively peaceful green space.</p>

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2025/1301/P	Rachel cooper	76b Caversham road	27/04/2025 17:56:09	COMMNT	As a local resident who makes good use of Cantelowes Gardens I object to the proposed change of use. Many local children and families make very good use of the existing, free sand pit and amenities. I cannot see a need for fee paying padel court. It would be a loss to the park and the local area's feeling of community.
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