

Application N	Consultees Name	Recipient Address	Received	Comment	Response
2024/5407/P	Sir Jonathan Pryce CBE	17 WILKES STREET London E1 6QF	29/05/2025 13:04:11	OBJ	<p>I write to formally object to this planning application. I have a dear friend buried there and I know that this matter is causing a great deal of anxiety to his family. Because of this I feel compelled to advocate for the protection of this sacred space.</p> <p>Highgate cemetery is a national treasure - a site of historical, ecological and spiritual value. Any development must secure its integrity for future generations and reflect its exceptional status. This proposal sadly fails to meet that standard.</p> <p>1 The Mound is an active area of mourning containing some of the cemetery's most recent and sensitive graves. The addition of a viewing platform, operational facilities and elevated walkways undermines its reverent atmosphere. Such intrusions are not only disrespectful but a breach of the trust placed in the cemetery by those who have chosen it as their final resting place.</p> <p>2 The proposed building - industrial in form and scale would rise 5 meters above the Mound and nearly 8 meters above the lower path would dwarf the surrounding features. Its roller shutters, concrete facade and service bays conflict starkly with the Grade 1 listed landscape.</p> <p>3 By removing established green space, including a wildflower bank the proposal endangers the graveyard's microclimate and undermines planing efforts by the grave's owners. This contradicts policies protecting Metropolitan Open Land and listed Heritage sites.</p> <p>4 The narrowing of the only pedestrian path to 1.2 meters creates unacceptable risk particularly for those with mobility challenges. The anticipated construction phase would render the Mound inaccessible for months, preventing families from visiting and tending to graves - an outcome as distressing as it is unnecessary.</p> <p>5 Notification to families was late and insufficient. Consultation efforts did not prioritise those most impacted.</p> <p>6 There are several viable, less invasive options for meeting operational needs That would address functionality without compromising dignity or trust such as -Expansion of existing East Cemetery facilities Utilisation of underused peripheral storage areas. Deployment of temporary or low impact structures.</p> <p>In conclusion - The application risks inflicting lasting harm on Highgate Cemetery's character, ecology and emotional value. It prioritises convenience over conscience nad expediency over ethics. I strongly urge Camden Council to reject this proposal and cal for a revised plan that respects the site's sanctity and reflects the voices of those who hold it dear.</p>