[redacted]

From: Teresa Sladen <[redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 17:24
To: Planning
Subject: Application Number 2014/4332/P

David and Teresa Sladen wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the above application. If the dams and other alterations proposed to the ponds by the City Corporation are carried out they will entirely spoil the appearance of this very special part of the heath. And for what? In order to meet a threat of flooding that appears to be extremely small. This is a terribly destructive and misguided scheme. We urge you to refuse it planning permission.

David and Teresa Sladen, 77 Parliament Hill, London NW3 2TH.

[redacted]

From: Ruth Roth [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 17:54
To: Planning
Subject: App no. 2014/4332/P

RE: Application no. 2014/4332/P

I lodge an objection to this planning application.

Camden Council has the power to stop the dams project proposed for Hampstead Heath.

Large dams proposed, felling of large mature trees will devastate this unique and beautiful natural environment vital to wild life and migrating birds and enjoyed by millions of visitors.

Personally and most treasured for me is the sheer pleasure of swimming regularly in the ponds for many years. I live in this busy urban city. It is a small much loved safe natural environment. Never to rival the Canadian Lakes of my youth -

Major disruption and changes to this jewel for reasons which have been questioned by independent experts suggest that other means are available to fulfil City of London's legal obligations to protect down stream households.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Roth
NW2 6BG

[redacted]

From: David Roth <[redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 18:15
To: Planning
Cc: Ruth Roth
Subject: RE: Application no. 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Application no. 2014/4332/P

I wish to lodge an objection to this planning application.

Camden Council has the power to stop the dams project proposed for Hampstead Heath. Please do so.

Large dams are proposed, necessitating the felling of large mature trees. The loss of these will devastate this unique and beautiful natural environment, vital to wild life and migrating birds and enjoyed by millions of visitors.

I have swum in the men's pond for many years. My pleasure in so doing would be ruined if the surrounding view consists of enormous mounds which I believe to be quite unnecessary.
The risk of flooding, though real, is grossly exaggerated. Such floods in the area as there have been would not be prevented by these dams. What is required is a proper system of warnings.

Major disruption and changes to this jewel for reasons which have been questioned by independent experts suggest that other means are available to fulfil the City of London's legal obligations to protect down stream households.

Yours sincerely

Ruth Roth
NW2 6BG

[redacted]

From: David Roth [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 18:21
To: Planning
Cc: Ruth Roth
Subject: Fw: Application no. 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Application no. 2014/4332/P

I wish to lodge an objection to this planning application.

Camden Council has the power to stop the dams project proposed for Hampstead Heath. Please do so.

Large dams are proposed, necessitating the felling of large mature trees. The loss of these will devastate this unique and beautiful natural environment, vital to wild life and migrating birds and enjoyed by millions of visitors.

I have swum in the men's pond for many years. My pleasure in so doing would be ruined if the surrounding view consists of enormous mounds which I believe to be quite unnecessary.
The risk of flooding, though real, is grossly exaggerated. Such floods in the area as there have been would not be prevented by these dams. What is required is a proper system of warnings.

Major disruption and changes to this jewel for reasons which have been questioned by independent experts suggest that other means are available to fulfil the City of London's legal obligations to protect down stream households.

Yours sincerely

David Roth
NW2 6BG

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 18:25
To: Planning
Subject: Application Number 2014/4332/P

Dear Camden Planning Department

I am a 78 year old Camden resident and regular swimmer and member of the Kenwood Ladies Pond Association.

In 1975, when I lived in Belsize Lane, our basement was flooded at the same time as the flooding occurred in Gospel Oak. This flooding had nothing to do with the ponds on Hampstead Heath which did not overflow despite the torrential rain. The flooding was caused by the drains and sewers being overwhelmed by the amount of water.

Even the unprecedented rainfall earlier this year when the Heath was waterlogged for months caused no danger of the ponds overflowing or bursting the existing dams. Why therefore does the City of London Corporation think it is necessary to spend millions of pounds destroying beautiful areas of the Heath in a blatant act of corporate vandalism.

I wish to state my objections to their proposed plans in the strongest possible terms and for the following reasons:-

The work would involve the destruction of many beautiful areas on the Heath and the felling of many mature trees.
There would be more than two years disruption for local people with many trucks and heavy machinery moving throughout the surrounding neighbourhoods.
The bathing ponds which are a uniquely important local facility will be closed for two years, and when re-opened will have been dramatically changed for the worse.
The lovely valley above the Mixed Pond will be completely destroyed.
The Model Boating Pond will be altered for the worse with a massive, ugly dam and giant spillways.
The Men's Pond will have a concrete wall replacing the grassy slopes used by many fishermen.

But, most importantly, this whole scheme is unnecessary because the City of London is wilfully ignoring the less damaging alternatives recommended by many experts and forging ahead with a scheme based on faulty science.

I hope that the sensible people in the Camden planning department will come to the aid of the people of Camden and reject this foolish plan.

With a hopeful heart,

Best wishes

Audrey Battersby

Sent from my iPad

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 18:43
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to Planning Application for Hampstead Heath Dams and Ponds Project Ref 2014/4332/P

Objection to Planning Application for Hampstead Heath Dams and Ponds Project Ref 2014/4332/P

I know many women feel strongly that the Council should not proceed with the dam works at the Ladies pond on Hampstead Heath. I too call on Camden Council to reject the planning application from the City of London which seeks permission to build and enlarge dams on Hampstead Heath.

The City of London's proposed dam works on Hampstead Heath will permanently disfigure the Heath, and is not a necessary or proportionate way to eliminate the risk of downstream flooding or loss of life which the City of London claims these proposals will address.

The City's rationale for these works involves a dubious interpretation of the law. It refers to a computer model of a 1 in 400,000 year "probable maximum flood" and works that would "virtually eliminate" the risk of dam collapse in the event of this flood. The works would contravene the Hampstead Heath Act of 1871 which requires that Hampstead Heath be preserved in its "natural aspect and state".

The proposed works specify massive dams, spillways, concrete walls and embankments. They would involve the felling of at least 160 trees; Inevitable and irreversible damage to the Heath and its wildlife; and would ruin the amenities available for swimming in the natural beauty of the Heath's bathing ponds, particularly the Ladies pond. I call upon the Council to full embrace preservation of the uniquely feminist and environmental aspects of the Ladies pond, liberating women to swim and relax in a tranquil, free way as they have done for years at the pond. Do not interfere with the natural aspect and state of this pond. Preserve it in all its current aspects.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Carol Wilkinson,

24 Carrol Close; NW5
1TF

[redacted]

From: PATRICIA CARVIS [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 18:55
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Objection to Dams for Hampstead ponds

I object to the proposed building of the dams for the following reasons:

1.Aesthetic

The heath and its ponds afford Camden citizens the opportunity to visit a place of great natural beauty. The proposed imposing earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and the Model Boating Pond would have a detrimental effect on that landscape. The concrete walls at the Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond are totally incongruous with the landscape.

2. Loss of Trees

Camden, quite rightly and for reasons that shouldn't need re-stating here, has a policy to preserve trees wherever possible and yet the proposals include the felling of over 160 trees. There is to be an indefensible large tree loss at Stock Pond to create a spillway.

3. Disruption

The works would take 2 years to complete necessitating closure of popular parts of the heath and the bathing ponds. Movement and usage of heavy engineering plant and HGV vehicles would cause noise, dust and disruption. The wildlife of the heath would be negatively affected.

4. Lack of Necessity

The models employed hypothesise storms with a 1 in 400,000 year probability and do not investigate the actions of emergency services or monitoring/early warning systems.

5. Legal Obligations

Camden is not obligated to carry out works on this massive scale by the Reservoirs Act 1975.

Pattie Carvis
18 Hampstead Hill Gardens
NW3 2PL

[redacted]

From: cary whitworth [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 19:13
To: Planning
Subject: Planning application no 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam

Camden Council should reject the planning application from the City of London which seeks permission to build and enlarge dams on Hampstead Heath.

I object to this proposal on the following grounds. These works will permanently disfigure the Heath while not eliminating the risk of downstream flooding or loss of life which the City of London claims these proposals will address

The proposed works specify massive dams, spillways, concrete walls and embankments. They include:

- Construction of a huge 40m wide by 5.6m high embankment in the Catchpit Valley;
- Construction of a massive 2.5 m dam at end of the Model Boating Pond;
- Felling at least 160 trees;
- Taking 2 years to complete;
- Estimated costs of at least £17 million;
- Inevitable and irreversible damage to the Heath and its wildlife.

The City's rationale for these works involves a dubious interpretation of the law. It refers to a computer model of a 1 in 400,000 year "probable maximum flood" and works that would "virtually eliminate" the risk of dam collapse in the event of this flood. The works would

contravene the Hampstead Heath Act of 1871 which requires that Hampstead Heath be preserved in its “natural aspect and state”.

I understand that independent experts recommend homes and lives could be better protected making minor improvements to existing dams, improving the Heath's natural capacity to absorb water, that could be diminished by heavy construction, and investing in early warning systems.

I swim regularly in the mixed and women's ponds and fear that over the construction period and afterwards I will no longer be able to swim on the Heath.

Yours faithfully

Cary Whitworth

[redacted]

From: N Bennett [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 19:14
To: Planning
Subject: Application No. 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam,
I am emailing to lodge my complaint with you, against the proposed works at the Hampstead Heath Ponds and surrounding areas.
From what I understand, the plans have been based on an unrealistic model that takes the absolute worst case scenario as a probable event; assuming the collapse of all existing dams in the worst kind of storm, predicted to happen once in 400,000 years. When one considers local sewers would fail a flood event with a probability of once in 70 years, one wonders who this proposed work is supposedly targeting for protection.
The work will devastate and destroy what presently is an historic, natural, working ecosystem. More than 160 trees are to be felled, many mature specimens, with all the resulting havoc and loss of life caused to the wildlife these trees support, while the ponds are to be dredged and drained, and large areas of plants dug up and removed.
Harder to understand, is why the City of London has accepted these proposals on the advice of dam engineers, whose expertise does not extend to wider flood considerations - & who are likely to benefit from the many millions of pounds involved in this project - whilst ignoring the contradictory recommendations made by independent experts, who propose less invasive, more sympathetic works and have, in fact, pointed out that such heavy construction could actually diminish the Heath's natural ability to absorb water, thus counteracting any work carried out under this proposal.
I ask that Camden Council consider these expert opinions and do not continue any further with the current plans.
I appreciate your interest and assistance in this matter and look forward to the outcome of this matter.
Yours faithfully,

N. Bennett

[redacted]

From: Heather Leonard [redacted]
Sent: 03 August 2014 19:20
To: Planning
Subject: Application Number 2014/4332/P

Dear Camden Council

I am a swimmer who loves the Heath and the ponds. Although I have lived in Reading for over 40 years, I was born in North London. I am 65 and have swum in the ponds all my life - still travelling from Reading to Hampstead to do so. It is a totally unique experience and should not be lost.

The City of London has based its plans on unrealistic computer modelling that assumed the collapse of all existing dams; no warning and no emergency services; and the very worst kind of storm ever possible - predicted to happen only once in 400, 000 years.

With trust that you will turn down their planning application that would destroy parts of the Heath and change the ponds forever,

Heather Leonard.

Enirayetan, Oluwaseyi

From: Patrick <paddyhorton@hotmail.com>
Sent: 03 August 2014 19:36
To: Planning
Subject: Objection re application number 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to lodge my objection to the proposed plan above to make significant changes to the dams and waterways on Hampstead Heath.

My objection is on 3 grounds:

- I don't believe that due care or consideration has been given to alternatives that would cause less disruption and could achieve the City of London's legal obligations to protect households.
- I object to the damage that the changes will cause - the destruction to trees and addition of other features that will change this unique landscape.
- I don't believe that the significant disruption to the heath over two years is worth the outcome when other less intrusive alterations could be as effective.

I hope that Camden Council will take seriously the deep-felt and serious objection to this planning application and ask the City of London to seek alternatives.

Yours faithfully,

Patrick Horton

56 Kinver House
42 Elthorne Road
London N19 4AS