

**From:** Barson, Susie <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 13:00  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/4332/P

Dear Sir/Madam

Ref. 2014/4332/P

I am writing to strongly object to the plans currently before the Camden Planning Committee for major earthworks on Hampstead Heath that are related to drainage/flooding issues.

Along with many others who have signed the petition against these destructive proposals, we are not convinced that works on this scale are necessary. It is not a legal requirement and based on unrealistic modelling that models for a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 probability of occurring, and assumes that there would be no warning or emergency measures in place.

The existing landscape will be disfigured: where the current soft edges to the ponds exist at the men's pond and No.1 pond, huge concrete walls are proposed, and over 160 trees would be felled. That is completely unacceptable and irresponsible in itself! Plus, closure of the bathing ponds, and disruption to our precious green open space, our *Rus in Urbe*, the lung that Londoners need so badly in our polluted, overcrowded city, is also an appalling prospect.

We - I - urge you to reject these plans from the City of London after the consultation has closed on 4th August.

Yours faithfully,

Susie Barson  
42c Finsbury Park Road  
London N4 2JX

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**From:** carol harvey <ha [REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:03  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/4332/p

I would like you to be aware that I STRONGLY object to the unnecessary works planned for the Hampstead heath ponds . I would cite the 1975 reservoir act . There would be an unacceptable loss of over 160 trees. The heath has lost a great number of trees over the last year in the Kenwood area thanks to English heritage . The disruption and closure of ponds for 2 years whilst work is done is also unacceptable. The reason research and survey is flawed in it's very nature as no account of emergency services have been taken into account. There is no justification in this time of economic difficulty to spend this money on something that has no need.

I have written to my mp regarding this matter

Yours sincerely  
Carol Harvey

**From:** Christine Rowley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:08  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** objection to planning application 2014/4332/P

Hi I live at 22B Lindfield Gardens London NW3 6PS and would like to object to the above application.

I object on the following grounds

## **1. Legality**

Reservoirs Act 1975 does legally not require works to be carried out on this huge scale.

## **2. Unrealistic modelling:**

- > models for a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability;
- > assumes no warning and no emergency services.

## **3. Disfigurement of Heath landscape:**

- > new and unnatural huge earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond;
- > concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond.

## **4. Tree loss:**

- > over 160 trees to be felled;
- > large tree loss at Stock Pond to create giant spillway.

## **5. Closure and disruption:**

- > 2 years of works requiring closure of popular parts of the Heath;
- > closure of bathing ponds;
- > heavy engineering plant and thousands of HGV movements;
- > damage to wildlife.

Thank you for the consideration

Best regards

Christine

**From:** Erika and Maurits Dolmans <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:12  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** reference 2014/4332/P. -- Objection to higher dams on Hampstead Heath

Sir, Madam:

We live in Hampstead and walk on the Heath every day. The ponds are one of the defining features. We believe that the proposed expanded dams are unnecessary (with modelling done based on unrealistic assumptions), not required by the Reservoirs Act 1975, and cause irreparable damage: destruction of a large number of trees, depriving walkers of the of the ponds and disfiguring what is visible with huge earthworks and even concrete walls that have no place on the heath. Not to speak of two years of heavy construction work.

In the circumstances, one really wonders why these works are proposed, and who benefits?

Please reject these plans.

Erika and Maurits Dolmans

**From:** Rima Farah <r[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:26  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Reject planning for Hampstead Heath ref: 4014/4332/P

Please stop this, why tamper with what has been there for centuries in favour of what?

The cutting of trees  
Unrealistic and unnecessary remodelling  
Disfigurement of the landscape  
Damage of wildlife  
Closure of the most popular parts for minimum 2 years

Reservoirs Act 1975 does legally not require works to be carried out on this huge scale.

The heath is also there for us, the residents, and WE DON'T WANT THE DAM WORKS TO HAPPEN.

Rima Farah

**From:** Bortolotti, Floriana <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 15:08  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/4332/P

Dear Everyone,

I think that the City planning application should be rejected.

I am a keen Hampstead Heath user as I spend quite a bit of my leisure time walking, reading, sunbathing in the Ladies Pond, picnicking there.

I feel that this is such a waste all around on these grounds:

1. Huge unnecessary earthworks and excavations around the Model Boating Pond, and concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond to cater for huge storms with an extremely low probability they might ever occur.
2. So many trees to be felled with relevant damage to and loss of wildlife.
3. About 2 years of works requiring closure of bathing ponds and heavy engineering plant and thousands of HGV movements

Hampstead Heath should be protected not disfigured out of recognition.

Your sincerely.

Floriana

Ms Floriana Bortolotti  
UCL Research Department of Epidemiology & Public Health  
1-19 Torrington Place, Room G34  
[REDACTED]



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 15:23  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Proposed Flood Protection on Hampstead Heath

23 July 2014

Has my previous suggestion been considered i.e. build tunnels beneath the ground at the foot of the ponds in order to divert flood waters into the River Fleet and/or its tributaries? This possibility should be worth considering from every aspect – cost, landscape, environment and personal relationships.

Alan Geffin (long term resident)



**From:** James Mills <j[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 15:28  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Hampstead Heath Works - 2014/4332/P

Dear Sirs,

I object to the proposed works which are far greater in scale\* than they need to be and will cause massive disruption and loss of amenity to the general public who regularly use this precious Heath for up to a 2 year period.

\*The objectional proposed works include:

- large earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond;
- concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond

Please can you re think the whole strategy and consider alternative solutions for flood prevention on the Heath as these present proposals are not the solution.

Kind regards

James Mills

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[REDACTED]

**From:** Ellen Solomons <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 15:29  
**To:** Alice Adams  
**Cc:** Planning  
**Subject:** Re: Planning Objection 2014/4332/P - Heath Dams

I wish to support the views of Alice Adams. I have signed the Petition objecting to the dam proposals and feel very strongly that the whole project is unnecessary and a real waste of public money. I very much hope Camden will reject the application.

Ellen Solomons  
1 Atheneum Hall,  
Vale of Health  
NW31AP

On 22 July 2014 17:29, Alice Adams <[REDACTED]> wrote:  
Dear Mr Markwell,

**Re: Planning Objection 2014/4332/P**

Please note my strenuous objections to the Heath dams planning application. My objections are as follows:

1. Work of this scale is not legally required by the Reservoirs Act 1975.
2. The case for the work is poor. If the world planned for events with a 1 in 400,000 year probability it's all we'd ever do. Besides, as a professional analyst with fifteen years' experience, I can tell you that once you get down to that level of probability you might as well pull numbers out of thin air - it's simply not possible to model real world events in this way, particularly those involving systems as complex as weather.
3. The proposed harm done to the the heath is unforgivable.

Beautiful natural spaces are in short supply in London and of tremendous importance to the physical and mental health of many thousands of people. Closing parts of the heath for long periods, felling large numbers of trees, spoiling the landscape and allowing large numbers of vehicles onto the heath and surrounding roads will have an appalling impact on both people and wildlife. This real and immediate harm is not taken into account versus the theoretical and eventual harm suggested in the business case, but it very obviously should be.

Yours,

Alice Adams

8 Heath Villas | Vale of Health | London NW3 1AW  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Jo Cammack <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 16:01  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Hands off Hampstead Heath!! Ref: 2014/4332/P

Dear Camden Council,

I am writing to say how shocked and frightened I am to hear about the planned works on Hampstead Heath.

My husband and I walk on the Heath most days of the week and absolutely love and treasure it. The thought of 160 more trees being felled - on top of the trees that were taken down to 'improve the view' from the Dairy - is unthinkable and wholly wrong.

To interfere so brutally with this wonderful and largely natural landscape would be criminal and I want you to know that I oppose it in the strongest possible terms.

The Heath is not something to be played around with by planners who think concrete can improve Nature. It should be respected and taken care of and frankly that is partly your responsibility as Camden Council.

Please please take this responsibility seriously and DO NOT GO AHEAD WITH PLANS referenced 2014/4332/P. Please preserve the Heath as it is. There is no legal requirement for the proposed remodelling and the risk of storm damage is not only small but can be mitigated in other less destructive ways. In this age of mass environmental degradation we in cities need our open spaces more than ever.

**PLEASE LEAVE OUR HEATH ALONE!**

Desperately hoping you will listen to the people of London who love and treasure the Heath.

Dr Jocelyn Cammack

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Alison Watson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 16:11  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Planning application for Hampstead Heath dams

RE: PLANNING APPLICATION 2014/4332

I write to urge you to refuse the above planning application for works to the dams on Hampstead Heath. As a regular swimmer, aged 80, I treasure this resource and am astonished that you can consider something which will cause so much damage, is legally not required under the Reservoirs Act while the possibility of severe flooding is statistically so remote as to be quite unrealistic.

The felling of 160 trees, untold damage and disruption from heavy vehicles, compaction and disturbance to wild life in addition to the problems for swimmers should mean you do not hesitate to reject the application.

Alison Watson  
84 St. James Lane  
N103RD

**From:** John Hersov [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 16:52  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Re: Planning Reference 2014/4332/P.

To Camden's Planning Department,

I want to register my objection to the above proposal on a number of grounds:

The scenarios it has been modelled for are so unlikely to occur that it represents an excessive solution to the kinds of issues that need to be addressed.

It would cause a massive upheaval to the Heath's landscape as it is now, with huge disruption to the regular activities that take place there, as well as causing large scale damage to trees and wildlife.

It is out of all proportion to what the current situation requires.

Yours sincerely,

John Hersov

**From:** Tessa Stuart [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 17:02  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/4332/P City of London Planning Application Objection

As a Hampstead Heath user, I would like to object to the construction work on Hampstead Heath outlined in the above planning application.

The modelling used for the calculations appears entirely unrealistic, based on models for a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability with no warning and no emergency services.

The disfigurement of the Heath landscape is unacceptable, with new and unnatural huge earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond and concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond.

The tree loss with over 160 trees to be felled is just plain wrong, and the closure and disruption of popular parts of the Heath, the bathing ponds and the resultant damage to wildlife is unacceptable.

I await your response to my objection.

Tessa Stuart

42 Flanchford Rd  
London W12 9ND

Janet Kersnar  
Flat 2  
44 Parliament Hill  
London NW3 2TN

23 July 2014

To the attention of Jonathan Markwell

Dear Mr Markwell

As a resident of Parliament Hill for the past 20 years and a near-daily visitor to Hampstead Heath, I am writing to you and your colleagues to voice my deep concern about, and object to, the Hampstead Heath Dams project.

I have many reasons for my concern and opposition. Some of the main ones include:

1. **Legality:** The Reservoirs Act of 1975 does legally not require works to be carried out on this huge scale.
2. **Unrealistic modelling:** The models used are working on the assumption of an enormous storm taking place, with a 1-in-400,000-year probability, and it assumes no warning and no emergency services. Recent heavy rains have shown the current ponds to be more than robust.
3. **Disfigurement of our heath's historic and stunning landscape:** The unnatural and large earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond will destroy in one fell swoop the beauty and atmosphere of the heath. The same goes for the concrete walls at the Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond.
4. **Tree loss:** In this day and age of growing awareness of environmentalism and mankind's role in climate change, I find it astounding that anyone would put more than 160 trees – some magnificently huge and ancient – on a list to be felled. This would be devastating to the environment in general, and to the wildlife who depend on those trees. I have also been informed by experts of the large tree loss at Stock Pond to create giant spillway is planned, which would be heart-breaking and selfish, among the many other adjectives that I could choose to use.
5. **Closure and disruption:** Two years of works is being expected, requiring closure of popular parts of the Heath, including the bathing ponds. This is unfair and stressful for the locals such as me and my husband who live nearby.

As an aside, I also question the abysmal lack of transparency in these procedures thus far and going forward. As I go on my regular weekend runs through the heath and see all your very one-sided project announcements pinned here and there, I keep wondering: How has money been spent thus far on this project? Did I, as a voter, have a say in, for example the staff hired to sit in various booths at the heath to hand out those one-sided Dams Project leaflets? Would you keep us informed of every penny of the 17 million pounds that we're told this will cost us. In this day and age of austerity?  
Thank you for your time and attention. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With kind regards

Janet K

**From:** emma orti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 18:25  
**To:** Planning  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

Reference 2014/4332/P.

I write to you to implore Camden Council not to permit the above planning proposals to go ahead. I believe that the only motivation for these proposals is that someone is lining their pockets with tax payers money.

Hampstead heath and all its glory is a treasure and a vital space for me personally as well as the whole community both locally as well as far and wide.

From the mid 1800's the ponds have been used by people to swim and relax. I have used the heath all year round for the past fifty-three years from donkey rides, to climbing trees, picnics and bathing in the ponds. Both the mixed when I'm with my husband and son and the women's pond with my daughter and many friends and other female members of my family. It is a vital natural resource where we can relax physically, mentally and emotionally. An area where we can recharge ourselves from the urban environment that we live in. Hampstead Heath and the beautiful ponds are so exquisite that they need no interference or improvements as they are perfect just as they are.

We do not need these hug works to be carried out and the Reservoirs Act 1975 does NOT require them.

The plans are unrealistic based on a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability.

The disfigurement of the Heath landscape will be a devastation. There is already enough concrete we don't want or need anymore. As well as the loss of countless trees

The disruption will be a horrendous blight and invasion on all of human life as well as devastating wild life.

PLEASE RESPECT THE HEATH AND VALUE IT AS SO VERY MANY OF US DO.



**From:** Maire Mayne <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 21:00  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/4332/P.

To whom it might concern,

I seriously oppose the application by the corporation of London to do works on hamstead Heath and am very very shocked to hear of the proposals. I have lived and worked in Camden for nearly forty years and love and use the Heath all the time. As I understand it there is no legal requirement for the Corporation of London to do works on this scale. The works will seriously disfigure the Heath and will cause damage to the wild life and the Environment. To propose felling so many trees is a crime. Also hamstead Heath is a life line and life saver to myself and so many others. Walking on the Heath and swimming in the ponds helps to keep me sane and healthy in this stressful world. The proposed works will be hugely disruptive and cause us all great stress.

Please do not agree to these proposals

I am wondering if the running of hamstead Heath could be taken over by the national trust.

This wonderful place is part of our heritage and needs to be cared for by people who love and understand nature.

I no longer trust the corporation to do so.

Thank you

maire mayne  
17 Brookfield park  
NW5 1ES

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 21:24  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** reference 2014/4332/P  
**Importance:** High

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a regular user of the ladies pond on Hampstead Heath. I have an extremely stressful job and domestic set-up, and swimming on the Heath helps me keep physically and mentally healthy. I get a huge amount from the wildlife and the peace at the pond, as well as from the community of swimmers there. There really is nothing like it in London, or anywhere. It is a unique and special place.

In the hour I was at the ladies pond yesterday, a hot July day, I witnessed at least 50 women arriving / changing / leaving / swimming in the ponds, plus another 50 or so sunbathing nearby.

I understand there is a threat to close the bathing ponds and cause IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE and disruption to the ecosystems of the area. I implore you to consider the effect this will have on the wildlife and the people who appreciate it.

Not only this, I understand that under the Reservoirs Act 1975 such large scale work is ILLEGAL.

Furthermore, what is the point of planning for a massive storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability of happening. Frankly it looks like MISPLACED PANIC.

I hope the council will come to its senses.

Yours sincerely,

Penny Hughes.

**From:** Caryl Churchill [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 21:26  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** 2014/2334p

Dear Camden council

It sounds to me as if the scheme for the ponds is madness - destroying trees, disrupting the peace of the heath and the safety of wildlife for an infinitesimal danger that is not legally required. I have been going to the heath for fifty years and now go several times a week. Please stop this plan.

Yours sincerely

Caryl Harter

**From:** Thomas Koehrer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 22:36  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Hampstead Heath Ponds Project

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is to object the planned work around the Hampstead Heath Ponds:

I believe the Proposed work presents the following issues:

1. It is not necessary (as based on unrealistic assumptions)
2. It will trigger a material disfigurement of some of the nicest parts of the Heath
3. It will lead to a large number of trees being felled
4. The work itself will create massive disruption
5. I can't understand how in these difficult economic times, public money is spent on things which are not necessary - there are way more urgent projects which require funding.

Best regards,  
Thomas Koehrer

**From:** Nat van Zee <[REDACTED]>  
Zee <info@natvanzee.com>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 22:40  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** Application number 2014/4332/P

Dear sir/madam

I strongly object against planning proposal 2014/4332/P. The ladies pond is my paradise and sanctuary. Not just mine mind you, but many women like me find joy and peace by releasing their daily stresses in this beautiful little lake. To illustrate this point i invite you to read this article eloquently written by Esther Freud:

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<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/2/8a501fb6-e8fa-11e2-ae4d-00144feabdc0.html#axzz38KSJZ1gS>

I urge you to decline the build of this proposed dam and preserve our cherished ladies pond; few places are left now where women bound by timeless sisterhood smile in total relaxation.

Yours sincerely,

Nathalie van Zee.