Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 13:13
To: Planning
Subject: Dam works on Hampstead Heath

Dear Camden Planning

I am writing to strongly object to the Dam proposals on Hampstead Heath. The reasons I am objecting are as follows:

1. The plans have been modelled around a hypothetical flooding scenario that is highly unlikely to occur even with changing weather patterns and increased rain-fall. The scale of the proposals are

- disproportionate in relation to the problem
- extremely poor use of public funds for which Camden is accountable - huge waste of £17 million which can be far better spent on proportionate water management plans and used for environmental conservation not destruction
- have not taken into serious consideration alternatives that are less costly, proportionate, less environmentally damaging

2. The impact on the environment and wild-life will be seriously damaging. It will take many many years to recover from the works, 160 mature trees will be felled which in itself is irreversible and indefensible

3. The impact on all users of the Heath will be damaging. Massively reduced access for all for 2 years, noise pollution, diesal pollution. The Heath is an important lung for North Londoners and many more - their health and well-being will be adversely effected.

4. Impact on health and well being of uses includes pond swimmers who will not be able to access the pond - notably the Ladies pond for 9 months - and when they can the access there will be very limited increasing health and safety risks.

Please

- Listen to your constituents
- Think through the Green agenda with care. It is not a something to pay lip service too - it is a vital part of everyone's well-being not only in in North London but far beyond
- Please reflect carefully on all the objections that you receive.

Please do not destroy this wonderful space.
Please try to think creatively and take this proposal back to the drawing board.

Thank you
Jane Wood

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 00:20
To: Planning
Subject: Hampstead Heath Dams and Ponds Project Ref 2014/4332/P

I am writing to place an objection to the above planning application made by the City of London. I have always generally been impressed with how well the City of London have managed the various open spaces that they manage in North London; I'm a regular visitor to them all; therefore I am shocked about this application.

I have several concerns about this application.

I have been using the heath with my friends and family for over 35 years. As a swimmer in the women's pond, a cyclist,(for getting to the Heath), a walker and dog owner, I am concerned that if this application is granted it is going to considerably impact on my day to day life in a negative way, (as well as for the thousands of Londoners and visitors to London (tourists) who use these unique, amazing facilities.

I consider these proposals to be the most serious threat to the wild and natural state of the Heath since it was formed over 100 years ago; if built these works would permanently blight and disfigure the Heath contrary to the Hampstead Heath Act 1871, and the principal charitable object for which the Society was formed in 1897. From what I have read and understand (I am not an engineer) that their proposals "in the interests of safety" are a grossly excessive response to the danger, and have been based on an incorrect interpretation of the law.
I understand that these dams are not a legal requirement, that it will not necessarily solve the problem of future flooding. Also to date their has been no serious issue of flooding. I also understand the project is based on a 1 in 400,000 year worst case scenario. For the last 300 years there has been no life threatening problems associated with flooding. Lets stick with .... 'if it ain't broke don't fix it'.
I also understand that there are many other ways that this worry of flooding could be managed, which would be less destructive, (and expensive) and not have the considerable safety issues for the general public that two years of construction will have. This plan will cause destruction to trees, scare off the wildlife as well as the people.

Should this construction go ahead I am concerned for my safety as a cyclist, (as well as children and dogs) by the construction traffic, which I understand would take up to 2 years to complete over a significant area of the Heath. The heath attracts numerous cyclists, who visit this space. As we all know the main cause of death of cyclists on the roads are construction lorries.
I hope the planning committee will act with common sense for the benefit of Londoners and turn down this extreme application.

Yours faithfully
Sue Bineham
Flat 31 Melchester house
Wedmore Street
London N19 4RE
[redacted]

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 09:56
To: Dempsey, Matthew
Cc: Planning
Subject: Re: 2014/4332/P Heath Dams

I wish to add detail to my objection submitted earlier:

The visual impact of the scheme will be detrimental to the Heath : It is out of keeping with the rural nature and wooded soft landscaping . The massive naked embankments are overbearing, out of scale and insensitive to the environment , as is a BRICK wall to be built around the lowest Highgate pond.

---Original Message---
From: Alan Fox
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2014 10:34 PM
To: Dempsey, Matthew
Cc: planning
Subject: Re: 2014/4332/P Heath Dams

I object in the strongest terms to this scheme.

It is grossly out of proportion to any realistic risk.

CoL are totally "misguided" regarding their legal liability under the reservoirs act. (They have only registered one pond as a reservoir in any event).

It is completely contrary to the Heath governing legislation , that requires CoL to retain its "wild" nature.

It will cause totally unacceptable disruption and noise and loss of amenity and denial of access to the Heath or 2 years.

It must contravene all Camden guidelines on amenity and open space.

It must be refused.

Alan Fox 15 Makepeace Ave London N6 6EL

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 10:47
To: Planning
Subject: NO! Ref. 2014/4332/P.

Dear Camden Council,

As a local resident I would urge you to turn down the above planning application and stop the heavy construction on Hampstead Heath. I say on this of the scale of the work, the lack of necessity for such changes- including the low probability of such a storm- the disfigurement of the Heath, the loss of trees and the disruption such work will cause, including damage to the wildlife.

yours sincerely,
Heywood Haut
NW5 1NA

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 12:14
To: Planning
Subject: Application 2014/4332/P

As regular swimmers using both the Ladies' and Mens' ponds on Hampstead Heath, we would like to lodge our objection to the proposed application to build massive dams on the heath, resulting in the closing of the swimming facilities for some time and, more importantly, the destruction of the beauty we enjoy so much - for what reason? We understand the work is unnecessary according to experts so why does the Corporation of London not listen to them?
Eileen and Stuart Allen
19a Sedgemere Avenue, N2 0SY

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 12:27
To: Planning
Subject: Camden Council (Planning Reference 2014/4332/P)

Dear Mr Markwell,

As a frequent user, and big fan, of Hampstead Heath, I am reaching out to you directly to voice my objections to the Heath Dams project. As work appears to already be getting under way despite what I see as widespread local opposition to it, I would like to outline my concerns, as a voter and taxpayer (ie the source of your wages.)

On numerous levels, I question the wisdom of this move. For one thing, the legality of the steps being take are questionable from a legal point of view. As I believe it has already been pointed out to you, the Reservoirs Act 1975 does legally not require works to be carried out on this huge scale.

For another reason, I object to the destruction of one of London's most loved and historical landmarks, which also is extremely important to its ecosytem. As a long-time resident of Parliament Hill, I see the significance of this on a daily basis, and as an avid bird-watcher, I can foresee what the repercussions of the felling of countless trees and construction disruption, among many other ill-effects, will have on Britain's much-loved wildlife.

The list of my objections is lengthy but I will leave it at this. Please do feel free to contact me if you would like to hear more about my concerns.

Thanks you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

With kind regards

Eduardo Skinner (A tax payer)

--
Eduardo Skinner Chamorro

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 14:53
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to planning application 2014/4332/P

I wish to object in the strongest possible terms to this proposal by the City of London for works to the chains of ponds on Hampstead Heath.

Firstly, after studying the documentation it seems to me that the case is weak for carrying out this work. It seems that the risks have been over-exaggerated and the proposed works are total overkill, while not necessarily being effective even if the unlikely flood events occur. The enormous cost could be much better spent elsewhere including improving other aspects of the Heath and ponds.

Second, the impact on both the Heath and the surrounding roads of the works being carried out would be colossal and protracted, in terms of traffic, heavy plant, noise. The environmental impact on vegetation (notably the loss of trees) and wildlife would be catastrophic, and largely irreversible.

Third, the resulting permanent structures would be very detrimental to enjoyment of the ponds and the surrounding areas of the Heath.

I have lived in Hampstead for 43 years and in Belsize Park before that and really cherish the Heath. I have to say I am not impressed with the management of this precious resource since the Heath was taken over by The City of London.

Thank you for consideration of my objection

Maggie Heraty OBE MSc FCILT FRSA
Humanitarian Logistician
6c Frognal Mansions
97 Frognal
London
NW3 6XT
UK
[redacted]

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 18:11
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to Dams on Hampstead Heath
Attachments: Objection to Dams on HH.docx

Hi,
Please see my attached objection to the dam proposal on Hampstead Heath, Planning Application Number 2014/4332/P

Best wishes,

Dawn Biram

241 Totley Brook Road
Dore
Sheffield, S17 3QX

25th July 2014

Planning Application Number is 2014/4332/P

To planning@camden.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

I come to London regularly for work reasons and whilst there I swim in the ponds. I am always so impressed by the wildness of the heath despite its close proximity to the city.

It is a gem that is impressively free from urban clutter and over the top management. I am so sad that this is intended to change and I wish to object and to express that the natural character of the heath is so special and refreshing. It makes my visits to London so much more pleasant.

I therefore object on the basis that this development will irreversibly damage the natural wild character of the heath and ponds.

I believe this wildness and the enjoyment afforded by these ponds is important to the psychological and physical wellbeing of the local residents and can also benefit visitors like myself.

As it is such an asset to the city, making it an attractive place to come on business, this proposal could also have a wider negative economic impact in the long term.

Wildlife will be disrupted and the sensitive environment damaged by traffic and heavy machinery and I understand that a lot of trees will be removed.

The flood risks may therefore be increased by the soil compaction and disruption/removal of vegetation.

This expensive and undesirable project has been based on a risk model of the 1 in 400,000 year "probable maximum flood" and seek to "virtually eliminate" the risk of dam failure. This is an unreasonable justification. I also understand that the estimate of 300 additional people who might die in these extreme floods, due to dam failure, is based on them remaining in their homes and taking no action to leave. In over 300 years' existence the ponds on Heath have not collapsed or caused any major flooding, despite flooding being widespread in other areas of the country recently in the wettest winter on record.

These proposals represent a serious threat to the wild and natural state of the Heath since it was formed over 100 years ago; if built these works would permanently blight and disfigure the Heath contrary to the Hampstead Heath Act 1871

Please register my objection and abandon this damaging scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Biram

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 21:32
To: Planning
Subject: App no. 2014/4332P

Hello,

I object to the dam work on Hampstead ponds- it would ruin the natural scenery, cause disruption and damage to trees. All for no purpose as the flooding scenarios is too far fetched.

Yours Daniel saccoccio

Deborah Lovett

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 18:56
To: Planning
Subject: Hampstead Ponds

Please, please do not allow these destructive works to go ahead and ruin one of the most magical places in the world and one which makes living in London (especially in the summer) a real life-saver (pun intended) Kate Trelford Islington N1 1JG

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 13:09
To: Planning
Subject: Objection to Application Number 2014/4332/P

Swimming in the ponds is the best thing about living in London. Please don't change them. The application appears excessive, unnecessary and environmentally damaging. Please reject it.

Alexander Woollcombe
3A Prospero Road, N19 3QX

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 11:30
To: Planning
Subject: Heavy Construction on Hampstead Heath

I strongly protest at the plans for heavy construction works on Hampstead Heath on the following grounds-
1. Why is it necessary?
2. The affect on the wildlife by felling some 160 odd trees and closing the pools for some two years and the noise created by the work. Where will all the wildlife go?
3. For many people living in Central London it is their only chance of getting into a countryside facility.
Please leave the Heath as it is, it is so beneficial to ALL visitors

R.F. Weatherly
Enfield, Middx.
.

Gentet, Matthias

From: [redacted]
Sent: 26 July 2014 07:21
To: Planning
Subject: planning reference: Hampstead Heath Dams and Ponds Project Ref 2014/4332/P

26 July 2014

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to voice my strong objection to the Hampstead Heath Dams and Ponds Project (Ref 2014/4332/P) as a Londoner who has been swimming in the Ladies Pond and walking on the Heath for decades. I urge the Council to reject the project for the many cogent reasons that have been put forward by the many who oppose it, including the failure to consider far more sensible and environmentally friendly and cheaper alternatives. This project is utterly unnecessary, would cause immense disruption and unhappiness and would permanently disfigure the Heath.

Yours sincerely,

Margaret Picken, 82 Huddleston Road, London N70EG

241 Totley Brook Road
Dore
Sheffield, S17 3QX

25th July 2014

Planning Application Number is 2014/4332/P

To planning@camden.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

I come to London regularly for work reasons and whilst there I swim in the ponds. I am always so impressed by the wildness of the heath despite its close proximity to the city.

It is a gem that is impressively free from urban clutter and over the top management. I am so sad that this is intended to change and I wish to object and to express that the natural character of the heath is so special and refreshing. It makes my visits to London so much more pleasant.

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These proposals represent a serious threat to the wild and natural state of the Heath since it was formed over 100 years ago; if built these works would permanently blight and disfigure the Heath contrary to the Hampstead Heath Act 1871

Please register my objection and abandon this damaging scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Biram

Planning: Camden Council

Reference 2014/4332/P.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am horrified to hear about the planned work on Hampstead Heath. It is entirely unnecessary and will have a hugely detrimental effect on the area both in terms of the natural habitat and on the many 1000s of people who enjoy using the Heath.

I want to outline the numerous reasons against this work below.

1. Reasons given for works.

There is no legal requirement to carry out these works on such a massive scale, see Reservoirs Act 1975.

The proposed works are based on entirely unrealistic modeling. The model is for a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability and assumes there will be no warning and no emergency services.

The above are insufficient reasons for the wholesale disruption and destruction of the natural environment.

2. Resulting impact on the landscape.

The works will result in the disfigurement of the unique and special Heath landscape. There will be new and unnatural huge earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond. There will be concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond. This isn't in keeping with sustaining the ecology and protecting the habitat.

The huge loss of trees as a result of these works would be an absolute disgrace. The proposal is to fell over 160 trees and for large tree loss at Stock Pond to create giant spillway. Trees are vitally important for tackling air pollution. Every city relies on the 'green lungs' of its parks and heaths. The loss of tree habitat for wildlife is of major concern when we consider how far some bird species and bee populations are rapidly declining. They need policies to support and sustain them rather than attacking and destroying their ecosystems. Finally, large trees take many years to grow. They can't easily be replaced by planting more.

3. Closure and disruption

The closure and disruption involved will be over **2 years.** This is an unacceptable time frame to impose the closure of many popular parts of the Heath including the bathing ponds. Many 1000s of people will be prevented from enjoying the Heath during this long period. It is well documented that walking and experiencing nature is a vital part of mental well-being. London is a huge city, and its pockets of nature and wildlife should be accessible.

The heavy engineering plant and thousands of HGV movements will damage the wildlife. These delicate ecosystems once destroyed cannot always be reinstated once the heavy work has finished. Surely Camden council's role should be the protector of wildlife not the destroyer? The heavy works will also take their toll on the peace and tranquility the Heath provides for those who walk and swim there.

The Heath is a special place that provides nature and humans with a vital habitat that is unique and historical. It seems perverse that Camden council is so keen to destroy this marvellous landscape.

I always find the Heath a beautiful and restoring environment when I go there. The proposed works will change it forever and destroy its unique and special qualities. This will be personally distressing to me as well as all the other Heath users.

Please do reconsider your proposals and make the right decision to protect this environment now and for the future.

Yours faithfully

Emma McKay