

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 16:54
To: Markwell, Jonathan; Planning
Subject: Proposed Hampstead Heath Dam and related works
Categories: Orange Category

Dear Jonathan Markwell and Planning dept.

I am writing to you in my own capacity. However I am an informed member of the Ponds Project Stakeholder Group who have liaised regularly with Corp of London and their consultants over the last 2 years in the evolving of these proposals.

1. I object to these works that are based on a 1 in 400,000 year probability. I have serious doubts over the modelling veracity. Despite the argument that Convection Storms are generally unpredictable, it is reasonable to expect with our more accurate weather observation and effective emergency services, that some limited forewarning is achievable either by wireless technology or trigger points set in or at the pond outflow positions, enabling timely escape from vulnerable homes or locations. Coastal regions have an early warning facility from the Environment Agency using text services sent to all potentially endangered households as a matter of course.
2. Despite fully understanding the lower bank erosion argument in the event of overtopping, I am unable to accept this as a reason to enlarge the existing earth bank Dams, this solution is crude and clumsy. I have consistently argued for, if essential, hidden reinforcement - sheet steel piling-concealed within the existing earth dams to prevent dam failure/collapse in a PMF, yet this has been resisted without qualified argument.
3. The 1975 Reservoir act does not require this work.
4. The Heath will be permanently disfigured in two significant areas by this work, despite proposed post-work planting.
5. The works will prevent usage of the Heath for recreational or swimming for much of the 2+ years of the works and cause noise and disturbance to users and households.

Kindly refuse consent for these works.

Yours sincerely
Tom Brent MCSD

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 16:07
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: My Objections to the Heath Ponds Project
Categories: Orange Category

1. Legality

The Reservoirs Act 1975 in no way requires works to be carried out on this huge scale.

2. Unrealistic modeling:

- > Models for a giant storm with a 1 in 400,000 year probability are ridiculous; further the plan
- > assumes no warning and no emergency services capacity.

3. Disfigurement of Heath landscape:

- > New and unnatural huge earthworks and excavations at Catchpit and Model Boating Pond;
- > and the concrete walls at Men's Bathing Pond and Highgate No.1 Pond will be hideous.


4. Tree loss:

- > More than 160 trees to be felled; plus there would be
- > large tree loss at Stock Pond to create giant spillway.

5. Closure and disruption:

- > Two years of works requiring closure of popular parts of the Heath;
- > closure of bathing ponds, even during periods of high demand;
- > heavy engineering plant and thousands of HGV movements will make life unendurable for residents;
- > and damage to wildlife will be inevitable and unacceptable.

Paul Levy, PhD, FRSL
First Floor
60 Pilgrim's Lane
London NW3 1SN

A solid black rectangular box used to redact information, likely a contact number or email address.

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 14:42
To: Planning; Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Planning Reference 2014/4332/P

To: Jonathan Markwell, Development Control Team, London Borough of Camden

Re: Planning Application 2014/4332/P Heath Dams

Please do not in any way discount this objection because it is almost a copy of some of the Heath and Hampstead Society objections as well as some others. I completely support all of the Heath and Hampstead Society objections.

I wish to object to the application 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.

Your sincerely

Michael Nourse

Faircroft
Vale of Health
London NW3 1AN

Gentet, Matthias

From: Kidd, Sandy <Sandy.Kidd@english-heritage.org.uk>
Sent: 30 July 2014 14:33
To: Planning
Subject: Hampstead and Highgate chains of ponds, Hampstead Heath Planning Application: 2014/4332/P
Attachments: Hampstead Ponds - arch advice_CLO14226.pdf

Please find English Heritage (GLAAS) archaeological advice attached ..

Sandy Kidd | Principal Archaeologist GLAAS

Direct Line: 020 7973 3215

Mobile phone: 07760 456812

English Heritage | 1 Waterhouse Square

138-142 Holborn | London | EC1N 2ST

-----Original Message-----

From: Williams, Enid
Sent: 10 July 2014 09:40
To: Kidd, Sandy
Subject: FW: Consultee letter for PlanningApplication Application: 2014/4332/P

CLO14226

-----Original Message-----

From: Dempsey, Matthew [mailto:Matthew.Dempsey@Camden.gov.uk]
Sent: 08 July 2014 16:17
To: GLAAS
Subject: Consultee letter for PlanningApplication Application: 2014/4332/P

Please find attached Consultee letter for PlanningApplication application 2014/4332/P

Y2014/4332/P

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Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 14:25
To: Planning
Cc: Charles Leonard; Sarah Allen; Ruth Jackson; Robert Cane; Mick Farrant; dinah gallop
Subject: Application Ref: 2014/4332/P

For the attention of Jonathan Markwell

The Elaine Grove & Oak Village Residents Association (EGOVRA), representing 75 households in Oak Village, Julia Street and Elaine Grove NW5, firmly supports the City of London's Planning Application No: 2014/4332/P (and the Associated Applications, Refs:- 2014/2149/PRE, 2013/7231/P, 2014/0320P).

We believe it complies with Camden's Core Strategy, Development Policy 23 and will provide increased protection against flooding for much of our community and other downstream communities in certain circumstances.

Yours faithfully

James Waite
Chair
EGOVRA

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 12:48
To: Planning
Subject: REF: 2014/4332/P

Dear Planning Committee

RE Dams on Hampstead Heath

1. Unrealistic Modelling:

Tropical-type downpours have increased, but there is no prediction of storms of the size envisaged to warrant such critical re-designing of ponds and pools on the Heath. Once in half a million storms is the rough estimate. This proposal seems an over-reaction, and a waste of the huge costs involved.

2. Despoliation of the landscapes, and closure of the Heath:

Following from the above: a sad and unnecessary permanent disfigurement of the landscapes of the Heath and a two year - or more - disruption, or even closure, of the peaceful enjoyment of this amenity. There will be more difficulty in accessing walks and ponds for those with disabilities due to the increased slopes, dykes and polders planned.

3. Reservoirs Act. 1975:

This Act does not require works of such a gargantuan nature to be carried out. A misreading, and an over-reaction seems to have occurred.

4. Tree loss:

160 trees are to be felled. No! This is a conservation area.

I urge the Planning Committee to get real and refuse this proposed work.

Yours sincerely,
Janet Suzman DBE
11 Keats Grove
NW3 2RN

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 12:24
To: ghsconsult@gardenhistorysociety.org; Planning; Zosia MELLOR;
jcc@gardenhistorysociety.org; mike dawson
Subject: Application reference 2014/4332/P. Hampstead and Highgate chain of ponds,
Hampstead Heath, London. FAO Jonathan Markwell

Dear Mr Markwell

I am writing as Chairman of the Planning & Conservation Working Group of the London Parks & Gardens Trust to give the Trust's observations on the proposal to carry out flood protection work at Hampstead Heath in respect of the Hampstead and Highgate chain of ponds.

The ponds, which are fed by streams, were created for utility and amenity, and are of historic and archaeological interest as well as possessing visual and ecological value in addition to their recreational importance. Their current form results from human intervention over a long period, and the scale of intervention to date has been proportionate to the function and to the landscape, so that the result appears "naturalistic" if not, strictly speaking, "natural".

I am not qualified to assess whether the proposed works are proportionate to the long-term threats of flooding or not, but my instincts are that the proposed works are in some respects excessive. It is clearly important to be sure that the existing dams are secure and can safely hold back the present water levels. Any work beyond that needs the most careful consideration and independent assessment, not least as the proposed works will be physically and visually disruptive in the short and medium term, and will result in changes to the appearance of the ponds and their surroundings which the passage of time will eventually soften but not conceal entirely.

Yours sincerely

Chris Sumner

Chairman, Planning & Conservation Working Group
London Parks & Gardens Trust
Duck Island Cottage
St James's Park
London SW1A 2BJ

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 12:03
To: Planning
Subject: Application Number 2014/4332/P

I am objecting to the unnecessary work that it is proposed to do on the ponds in the heath on the following grounds.

i. The corporation has not consulted independent experts. There needs to be wide consultation. Other much cheaper alternatives should be explored (e.g. early warning systems. The City of London has based its plans on unrealistic computer modelling.

ii. I have been using the ponds for 32 years. During this period they have not been a cause of concern from the standpoint of flooding.

iii. The works will cause large sections of the heath to be off bounds for at least 2 years. The value of this area has never been greater. They provide huge health benefits for local people.

iv. The character of the ponds will be destroyed.

v. I suspect that the corporation have ulterior motives (i.e. the commercialisation of the ponds and their essential annexation excluding poorer people like myself). The motive is commercial gain not the interests of ordinary people.

I look forward to your reply and the cessation of this dreadful and completely unnecessary plan.

Many Thanks,

Dr. Andreas Petzold, The Open University

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 11:45
To: Planning
Subject: Construction of dams on bucolic and pastoral Hampstead Heath

Dear Sir/Madam,

I understand that YOU have the power to stop those damn DAMS on Hampstead Heath and, therefore I will have the boldness to beg you to do just that, in the light of the fact that these works will be in breach of the Hampstead Heath Act of 1871, id est, unlawful...and totally unnecessary...Indeed, the flood that occurred in 1976 was actually caused by blocked sewers...

I have profound trust, faith and hope that common sense will prevail in the end. Those wonderful ponds were given to the public in 1871, with the undertaking that there would be NO charging NOR enclosures. Conclusively, they DO NOT belong to the City of London Corporation, even though they manage them in a quite exemplary manner.

Finally, may I put it to you that there may be a conflict of interest between the engineering firm and the City of London Corporation? I believe that the Chairman of the Hampstead and Heath Society, namely Mark Hutchinson, is going for a judicial review in october. I have no doubt at all that David will triumph over the giant Goliath...For your information, David was only a shepherd without a sword and armour, he had only stones as weapon and won...Ala jacta est...What a wonderful biblical tale!

With my thanks in anticipation for reading my comments full of wisdom and rationality.

With my best regards.

Nicole Charlet.

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 11:17
To: Planning
Subject: application no: 2014/4332/P

I oppose the dams on Hampstead Heath ponds.

My objections are because:

- the risk assessment is out of all proportion to the reality of the risks - I live right on top of the river Fleet, down hill from the ponds. I expect that my house would be affected if flooding were to happen in extreme circumstances, however I don't believe that the dams are necessary. After the incredibly wet winters we have just had, we didn't get flooded, the ponds were fine, everyone else's houses were fine.
- I don't want to see the mature trees and established wild life cut down or disturbed - The Heath is a green lung for London, and maintains a delicate balance in nature, if you disturb one area, you don't know what effect it will have on the whole of the Heath ecosystem.
- The dams are to be concrete which is a toxic substance with no ability to biodegrade, the proposed dams are too massive and inappropriate for their surroundings.
- the money could be better spent
- Disrupting the pond swimmers - to close the ponds for 2 years is a very poor exchange for mitigating the risk of 1/400,00 yrs, when the ponds are keeping people healthy right now. Lots of the pond swimmers are elderly, it is very good for them to walk out to the ponds, breath the fresh air and swim - if the ponds are shut you are risking their wellbeing and putting pressure on the Health Service.

Please turn down the planning request for these dams. Keep the Heath safe from badly considered schemes.
Thank you,
Tamsin

Tamsin Ogilvie

38 York Rise
Dartmouth Park
London NW5 1SB

[REDACTED]

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 20:23
To: Planning; Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Dams Objection
Categories: Orange Category

Dear Camden Planning Department,

We should like to protest in the strongest possible terms to the proposed civil engineering works to the ponds on Hampstead Heath. The viability study is defective in the following respects:

it does not assume any warning period;

it does not model alternative solutions such as investment in an early warning system and the setting up of a sinking fund with the balance of monies to provide for remediation work/insurance.

The disaster scenario for which this solution is offered is a remote one. There are many other potential disasters of similar magnitude and it does not appear that their likelihood has been evaluated in comparison to this one.

It does not appear that the residents of Kentish Town have been asked to express a view on whether they wish to be afforded the 'protection' being offered by this 'solution', or whether they might prefer the funds to be put to other use.

The loss of over 160 trees would be extremely detrimental to the much treasured environment of Hampstead Heath and would be tantamount to an active of publicly funded vandalism

The two year closure of areas of the Heath would deprive the public of a much needed amenity for an unacceptable length of time.

Sincerely,
Pat and Lance Blackstone
93 SHP

--
South Hillsiders • South Hill Park, NW3 • www.hillsiders.org.uk • admin@hillsiders.org.uk

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "South Hillsiders" group.
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Visit this group at <http://groups.google.com/group/southhillsiders>.
For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 10:32
To: Planning
Subject: Proposed work on Hampstead Heath reference 2014/4332/P

I am opposed to the work proposed by Camden Council. Not only will it disfigure the Heath in the short-term it will change its appearance in the long-term and give it a much more municipal feel.

The giant storm that the works are expected to protect the Heath from will do much damage elsewhere in Camden. It would be a better way to spend limited resources to protect the lives of residents and the buildings they dwell in, rather than tamper with the Heath.

Olivia Timbs
(regular walker on the Heath)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 23 July 2014 10:56
To: Planning
Subject: Planning application Hampstead Heath needs to be REJECTED

Hi, please find below the reasons why I am, as a londoner, against the heavy construction on the Heath.

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.

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 11:04
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Objection to the Heath Pond Project

Greetings

As a local resident I would like to object to the proposed grounds on the grounds of the damage they will inflict on the Heath, its use and beauty. From what I understand such major works are an overkill, plus do we really have the spare money to plough into this project? Are there not more pressing and worthy projects, such as in schools, hospitals etc where this money might be better used?

Claudia Nielsen
38 Denning Rd, NW3 1SU

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 11:49
To: Planning
Subject: Application Number 2014/4332/P

Dear Council members,

Please go down in history as the ones who saved this precious and unique environment - imagine in 20 years if it's not there? It is really the beginning of the end of what remains of our wonderful city. As a swimmer of many many years at the ponds I am prepared to do anything to stop this madness...

Thank you

Fiona Cunningham-Reid
18 Kersley Street,
London SW11 4PT

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 12:22
To: Heath and Hampstead Society
Cc: Planning; Jonathan.Markwell@camden.gov
Subject: Re: Dams Objection

London, 30 July, 2014

I would like to extend to you my objection to the dams that have been proposed. I live in NW3 and feel that the proposals will destroy an historical and beautiful area as well as being expensive, unrealistic and time consuming. London needs to keep it's green spaces. There will be many trees felled. Hundreds and hundreds of people every day use the Heath as relief from the stress of noise and work. CC Siegfried, 29 Daleham Gardens, London NW3 5BY

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 19:38
To: Planning; Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Planning Application 2014/4332/P Heath Dams
Categories: Orange Category

To: Jonathan Markwell, Development Control Team, London Borough of Camden

Re: Planning Application 2014/4332/P Heath Dams

Please do not in any way discount this objection because it is almost a copy of some of the Heath and Hampstead Society objections as well as some others. I completely support all of the Heath and Hampstead Society objections.

I wish to object to the application 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.
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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.

Your sincerely

David Burnett

Faircroft
Vale of Health
London NW3 1AN

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 22:34
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Objection to the planning application to raise the Hampstead Heath dams (Reference 2014/4332/P)

Categories: Orange Category

Dear Sir or Madam,

PLANNING APPLICATION - to raise the Hampstead Heath dams (Reference 2014/4332/P).

I object to the proposal to raise the Hampstead Heath dams. The closure of areas of the Heath will cause me great inconvenience as I have been running through the area in question every other day for 10 years. The proposed felling of trees and new earthworks and alterations to ponds will disfigure and damage the area and wildlife significantly. I understand that work on this scale, with aim of reducing a tiny theoretical risk, is wholly unnecessary and disproportionate and appears not to have been considered properly with the legality of such work disputed.

MY ADDRESS: FIRST FLOOR, 3 SOUTH HILL PARK GARDENS, NW3 2TD.
TELEPHONE: [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,

Giles Stephens

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 22:45
To: Planning
Subject: Application number: 2014/4332/P
Categories: Orange Category

Dear sirs,

I am very concerned that the decision by the City of London to proceed with very expensive; ugly; and disruptive dams on Hampstead Heath is based on biased and unrealistic modelling by the engineers that seek to benefit from the works.

Not ALL risk needs to be removed. Risks merely need to be managed. The City of London has taken an unbalanced approach in dismissing more moderate solutions to flooding risk.

Please refuse planning permission.

Kind regards,

Brian McDonnell

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 23:17
To: Planning
Subject: Dams on hampstead Heath
Categories: Orange Category

Dear Sirs

THINK before you plan.

It is a total unnecessary project you have at your fingertips, like everything else just to make money and destroy our beautiful heath that is forbidden to mess with.

I have been swimming in the ladies pond since I was 8'and am now 60. It is the most relaxing, marvellous, unusual , peaceful lovely place to go.

How could you even think to do something so stupid and totally unnecessary.

The world has gone insane. My poor grandchildren, i shudder to think what they pitiful lives will be when they are my age with all this health and safety and control for financial gain.

I am honestly scared. And I beg you to leave this phenominal place alone forever.

Anna Beraud

Kentish Town NW5

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 23:36
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan; Adrian
Subject: I wish to add my voice to say No to the HH Dams project
Categories: Orange Category

Hello

I have read the proposals of the council and what the Heath and Hampstead Society have stated are the issues and concerns as to why these proposals are unnecessary and damaging to the heath.

I am shocked at the amount of trees that would be felled. As a regular visitor to The Heath I strongly oppose this and agree very much with the points stated.
Please read the points below:

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.

Thankyou for your time

Adrian Peters

Resident of Golders Green

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 23:58
To: Planning; jonathen.markwell@camden.gov.uk
Subject: HAMPSTEAD ponds Project objection.
Categories: Orange Category

Dear sir/madam,
I am writing to object to the proposed Hampstead ponds project.
I believe that with a 1:400,000 chance of flooding it is unnecessary especially as we do have emergency services and weather forecasters.

It does not legally have to be done.

It will destroy the beauty of the heath.
Requires the removal of 160 trees unnecessarily.
It will require the movement of 1000's of heavy goods vehicles through the streets causing unnecessary disruption in local streets as well as the heath.

It will affect people's access to the ponds and paths for exercise for a long time when it is not necessary.

I believe the benefits of this project are outweighed by the personal, environmental costs.
Irene Moloney 10 Willoughby Rd NW3 1SA

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 17:36
To: Planning
Cc: Markwell, Jonathan
Subject: Planning Reference 2014/4332/P

Categories: Orange Category

I am writing to register my strong objection to the proposal to erect dams on the Hampstead Heath ponds.

I have lived adjacent to the Heath for 40 years, walking my dog twice daily every day for twenty of those years. I am familiar with all the ponds and their water levels regardless of the season and prevailing weather. In 40 years I recall just one incidence of so called 'flooding' at South End Green about 30 years ago and to my knowledge that was attributed to poor road drain maintenance which, had the drains been clear, would have avoided the small excess of rain water, not pond overflow, that pooled at the Green, adjacent to Hampstead Heath Station. No significant damage was caused by this water, it cleared the same day that it appeared and there has been no repeat incident since.

Having just emerged from one of the wettest winters on record I note there was no flooding from the Hampstead Heath ponds. Hampstead Heath was extremely wet and the ponds were full, but no flooding occurred or even threatened to occur.

The Heath is a beautiful part of London, enjoyed by many and not just the local Hampstead and Highgate population. I would prefer that it was not blighted by two years of heavy building and engineering ending in the creation of eyesore dams, obstructing the existing vistas. As a professional biologist I value the ecosystems on the Heath and worry for the deleterious impact that such an elaborate engineering project will have on the creatures and plants that co-habit the Heath with us. There is a rich diversity of wildlife in and around the ponds. Hampstead Heath is a haven and should be respected as such. The trees host a huge amount of insect and bird life as well as providing shelter and homes for many of the small mammals. Damming the ponds will damage the ecosystem for many years following the departure of engineers and their heavy plant and it must remain a doubt as to how long the area will take to recover. The beautiful seamless views will however be lost forever.

This scheme should be properly risk assessed and careful consideration given to such enormous expenditure. A balanced risk assessment will surely illustrate that there is no case for damming. In my view it is scandalous that it has been allowed to progress this far when it should clearly have already been dismissed on the grounds of scant evidence based fact indicating any required need for damming.

I should hope that the proposal is rejected and the Heath ponds, vistas and ecology can be left undisturbed for the enjoyment of everyone.

Regards

Duncan Moore
77 South Hill Park
Hampstead
NW3 2SS

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2014 17:20
To: Planning
Subject: Planning Application Ref: 2014/4332/P
Categories: Orange Category

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I came to live in Camden in 1970 and discovered the Women's Pond which was then relatively unknown. I felt privileged to swim in the Pond, which had and still has a small changing room, shower and toilet facilities. The Pond was supervised by professional lifeguards, there were few rules - firstly it was for women only and importantly there was no music or radios. For me, the Women's Pond has always been a very special place and part of an equally special place, the Heath itself.

We have our forebears to thank for making sure the Heath was kept as a simple and unspoiled facility for everyone to enjoy. For those who cannot afford holidays out of town - and I was often one of those - its existence means that all the things a holiday should offer (peace, exercise, getting away from it all) were available to the poorest. It has been looked after by its various guardians with a careful and light touch, for Londoners - particularly people of North London - to enjoy and be proud of.

If the City of London's planning application is approved, all of the things which I and many others love and are proud of about the Heath will be lost: many trees felled, the ponds closed, heavy machinery disturbing the peace. All justified by preparing for a "giant storm" which has never happened and, in all probability (400,000 to 1 is rather long odds) never will. Should there be any sign of natural disaster, there are emergency services ready to deal with it - trusting them will leave the Heath undisturbed and preserved as the unique, open and natural space that has been left to us.

I ask you please to reject this planning application.

Yours faithfully,

Pauline Croker

63A Dresden Road, N19 3BG

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



30 July 2014

Camden Planning Department

Planning Application No 2014/4332P

I am writing to you as a longterm resident of Camden and user of the heath to object to the City of London's Planning Application to construct huge dams which it says are needed to save lives in the event of a massive storm. This type of storm is predicted to happen only once in 400,000 years.

The City's plans include felling trees and massive dams which will divest the unique and natural beauty of the environment.

I understand that independent experts recommend that there are other ways to protect home and lives. In the wettest winter on record in 2013 there were no problems with the dams.

So I would urge you to object to this application. I have only written briefly as you will have already had all the detailed arguments from knowledgeable people.

Yours sincerely

Janet Richardson



ENGLISH HERITAGE

Mr Jonathan Markwell
London Borough of Camden
Town Hall,
Camden Town Hall Extension,
Argyle Street,
Camden,
London,
WC1H 8ND

Your Ref: 2014/4332/P

Our Ref: CLO14226

Contact: Sandy Kidd
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30 July 2014

Dear Mr Markwell

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED) NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK 2012

Hampstead and Highgate chains of ponds, Hampstead Heath, London

Proposed engineering works to the Hampstead and Highgate chains of ponds comprising dam raising at Model Boating Pond (2.5m) and Mixed Bathing Pond (1m), new walls along dam crest to increase the height of the dams at Men's Bathing Pond (1m) and Highgate No.1 Pond (1.25m), a 0.19m kerb along part of the crest at Hampstead No.2 Pond, a new flood storage dam (5.6m) in the catchpit area, grass-lined spillways at most ponds, dam crest restoration, pond enlargement at Model Boating Pond, a replacement changing room building at Ladies Bathing Pond and associated landscaping, habitat creation and de-silting. This application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Recommend Archaeological Condition(s)

Thank you for your consultation dated 09 July 2014.

The Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (GLAAS) provides archaeological advice to boroughs in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and GLAAS Charter.

The above planning application either affects a heritage asset of archaeological interest or lies in an area where such assets are expected.



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The National Planning Policy Framework (Section 12) and the London Plan (2011 Policy 7.8) emphasise that the conservation of archaeological interest is a material consideration in the planning process. Paragraph 128 of the NPPF says that applicants should submit desk-based assessments, and where appropriate undertake field evaluation, to describe the significance of heritage assets and how they would be affected by the proposed development. This information should be supplied to inform the planning decision. If planning consent is granted paragraph 141 of the NPPF says that applicants should be required to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) and to make this evidence publicly available.

The application proposes extensive groundworks affecting and around the Hampstead and Highgate chains of ponds which were constructed between the 17th and 19th centuries as part of the water supply infrastructure for London. The ponds are extant landscape features of sufficient historic interest to warrant consideration as undesignated heritage assets and are also of archaeological interest as, the installation and management of London's water supply is recognised as a research objective in the research framework for London archaeology (2002). English Heritage has produced guidance on 'Moats, Ponds and Ornamental Lakes in the Historic Environment' (2011) which emphasises that man-made water bodies display historic and archaeological interest in relation to the shape and profile of the feature, sediment and structures within it and relationship to the surrounding area (its setting).

The applicant's Environmental Statement includes a thorough and helpful desk-based assessment which has been supplemented by observation of geotechnical test pits. I do however have reservations about the assessment of significance of effect on the Model Boating Pond (Appendix 9.3) where there will be a noticeable change to the shape of the pond and its surroundings on its western side. There is no evident precedent for an island within either chain of ponds so identifying the new island as a positive benefit to the heritage asset appears unjustifiable, it should surely be assessed as minor or even moderate adverse impact. Would it not be preferable to reduce the impact by removing the island from the design?

With reference to archaeological interest, provision needs to be made for recording the extant and historic form and structures of and associated with the ponds, including features which may be revealed by the works. The ES suggests a 'watching brief' and this would indeed be an appropriate response in many cases although for some works it may be preferable to undertake trial investigations ahead of works - for example where historic structures such as sluices may be present. I therefore recommend that the archaeological mitigation allows for a rather wider range of responses including trial and full excavation or preservation in-situ of significant structural remains. These measures would be set out in the 'written scheme of investigation'.

There is also potential for the discovery of earlier buried archaeological remains, most likely of prehistoric date, indicated by the presence on the Heath of a scheduled Bronze Age barrow and a major Mesolithic settlement site. Although the



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geotechnical investigation did not discover any such remains its scope was too limited for completely reliable conclusions to be drawn.

Appraisal of this application using the Greater London Historic Environment Record and information submitted with the application indicates that the development would not cause sufficient harm to justify refusal of planning permission provided that a condition is applied to require an investigation to be undertaken to advance understanding. The archaeological interest should be conserved by attaching a condition as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Reason | Heritage assets of archaeological interest are expected to survive on the site. The planning authority wishes to secure the provision of appropriate archaeological investigation, including the publication of results, in accordance with Section 12 of the NPPF |
| Condition | No development shall take place until the applicant (or their heirs and successors in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority. No development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation. |
| Informative | The written scheme of investigation will need to be prepared and implemented by a suitably qualified archaeological practice in accordance with English Heritage Greater London Archaeology guidelines. It must be approved by the planning authority before any on-site development related activity occurs. |

It is recommended that the archaeological fieldwork should comprise of the following:

Redesign

Consider redesign of proposed alterations to the Model Boating Pond to minimise changes to its shape and surroundings and provision for minor alterations to preserve significant discoveries in-situ.

Historic Landscape Survey

Historic landscape survey uses historic map, documentary and field survey to establish the landscape history of a site to identify features of historic significance and how the history of the site contributes to landscape character. It is usually used as part of an assessment to inform a planning decision. Landscape survey is relevant to understanding both designed parkland landscapes and ancient/historic landscapes such as woodlands and field systems. It may include measured survey of archaeological earthworks.

Working from existing information, in this case an integrated approach to survey should encompass the form of the ponds, embankments, channels and structures in order to better understand their development and operation. This should be linked to investigation of below ground remains.



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Evaluation

An archaeological field evaluation involves exploratory fieldwork to determine if significant remains are present on a site and if so to define their character, extent, quality and preservation. Field evaluation may involve one or more techniques depending on the nature of the site and its archaeological potential. It will normally include excavation of trial trenches. A field evaluation report will usually be used to inform a planning decision (pre-determination evaluation) but can also be required by condition to refine a mitigation strategy after permission has been granted.

Consider trial excavation to assess risk and mitigation requirements in advance of more substantive or sensitively located groundworks.

Watching Brief

A watching brief involves the proactive engagement with the development groundworks to permit investigation and recording of features of archaeological interest which are revealed. A suitable working method with contingency arrangements for significant discoveries will need to be agreed. The outcome will be a report and archive.

Different levels of watching brief will be need to be specified for particular types of groundworks

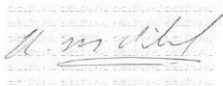
Informative

The archaeological mitigation set out above should be specified in a single written scheme of investigation and implemented and reported as an integrated study of the water supply system. Other remains (if present) might best be reported separately. Options for public engagement should be considered and incorporated where appropriate.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information or assistance. I would be grateful to be kept informed of the progress of this application.

Please note that this response relates solely to archaeological considerations. If necessary, English Heritage's Development Management or Historic Places teams should be consulted separately regarding statutory matters.

Yours sincerely



Sandy Kidd

Archaeology Advisor

**Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
National Planning and Conservation: London**



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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