



Request for HMPA deputation on the Development Control Committee

Dec 15th 2014

To: The Clerk of the Development Control Committee,

In my role as Chair of the Highgate Men's Pond Association (HMPA), I have been instructed by HMPA to request deputation for HMPA at the Development Control Committee, in objection to the proposed engineering works to the Hampstead and Highgate chains of ponds, ref: 2014/4332/P .

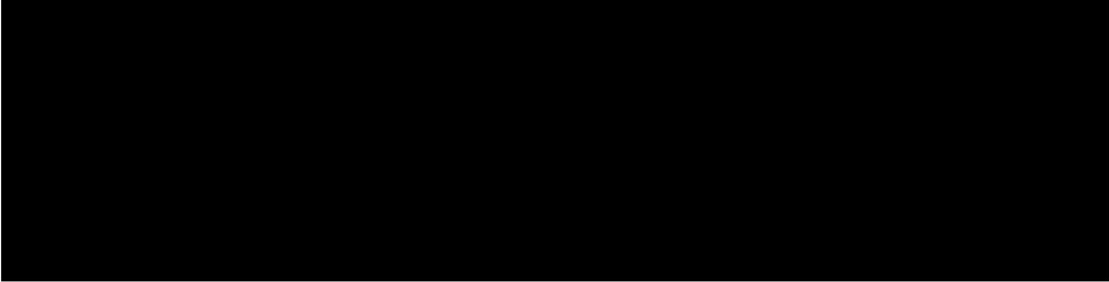
HMPA members (c554) are concerned over the impact that the proposed dams will have on the Men's Pond. Note that the City of London's (CoL) proposed works will directly impinge upon both ends of the Men's Pond.

At the north end of the Men's Pond, adjacent to the Model Boating Pond, the CoL plans to construct an 8 foot high dam and a 20-30m wide by 100m long spillway. Those works will radically alter the appearance of the landscape, involve loss of trees and bushes, and will interfere with the wildlife.

The CoL additionally plans to erect a 1m high barrier (either a brick wall or a steel barrier) positioned along the existing fenceline between the Men's Pond and Nom 1 Pond. Note that the existing fence is a slatted design that constitutes a barrier providing basic safety whilst minimising the impact on the Heath's natural and wild character, as cherished by all Heath users. However, the proposed barrier is entirely at odds with the Heath's existing natural aspect. It will cause loss of light and overshadowing for swimmers. Together with another 20 m wide spillway at that end of the Men's Pond, that barrier will permanently alter the appearance of the Men's Pond.

Yours faithfully,

Geoff Goss, Chair HMPA.



The Heath & Hampstead Society wishes to make the following applications in relation to the meeting of the Development Control Committee (DCC) at which this application will be considered.

1 - We request notification of the date of the meeting at which the application will be considered as soon as possible following the allocation of the case to a DCC meeting.

2 - We wish to make a deputation in person at the meeting and / or written submissions to the members of the DCC. The deputation statement, speaker and other details / written submissions will be forwarded not later than 0900 the day prior to the meeting. Although we will be making every effort to be concise, the nature of this unusually complex and important case mean that we would not be able to reduce the length of deputation below five minutes.

In view of the above, and since other organisations may also wish to speak, we further request that the council extend the period allowed for deputations.

Please feel free to contact us should you need any further information relating to this matter.

Regards

Douglas Maxwell
for The Heath & Hampstead Society

