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1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016

RE: WATERHOUSE APPLICATION PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 2011/4390/P

Dear Mr. Thuaire

I am writing to object to the above mentioned planning application.

The development will not only impact on the neighbours of the Waterhouse, but also Hampstead Heath one of the few precious refuges remaining in an increasingly built up world. This must be considered since the proposed development will intrude on and permanently harm this refuge particularly with regard to its trees and its pond life.

### **1. Trees.**

Significant trees border Millfield Lane which is not presently wide enough to allow for HGVs for the duration of the building process that is required. No HGV should ever be allowed on Millfield Lane. The heights and widths of these vehicles would cause permanent harm to the large trees with extensive roots under Millfield Lane and the trees would either be removed or they will die. This is unacceptable. It is unacceptable to cause permanent harm to trees at this time where climate change is so evident and where trees provide unmeasurable cooling and support to stability of climate, not only on Hampstead Heath but to the surrounding homes and streets. Millfield Lane is at present a country like path rather than a road and its trees provide essential support to birds and wildlife and shade to pedestrians who use this path. It was never intended to support invasive and continuous vehicular traffic.

### **2. Basement Impact Assessment**

It is essential to conduct a further BIA. Engineers for the Applicant claim that any surcharge of ground water for the proposed soak away will drain into an existing

gravel drain that runs parallel with Millfield Lane. However, photographic evidence shows that no such drain exists. Thus the ground water would discharge into the Bird Sanctuary Pond. The Bird Sanctuary Pond as shown by its name cannot be subject to continuous polluting waters. It is an extremely sensitive environment and provides a home for birds and wildlife throughout the year. Polluting waters will impact permanently and adversely on the pond and its inhabitants. Again, this must be considered.

### **3. Pedestrian Users of Millfield Lane and Hampstead Heath**

The developers are not unsurprisingly considering their own interests in their application to enlarge and expand their home. However, the environmental harm they will cause both as described above in (1) and (2) also will affect all users of the Heath. At present Millfield Lane is almost a country lane and only pedestrians use it. It is unthinkable that heavy goods vehicles should be allowed to traverse this Lane for a very considerable period of time causing great damage, odours, invasion of privacy and pollution.

If you allow this application, you are consenting to harm to Hampstead Heath, its trees, its ponds, its wildlife, its birds and waterfowl, and the people who use the Heath to enjoy these benefits.

Please consider all of the above when you make your recommendation.

Yours faithfully

Lynda Cook  
Heath Sub Committee  
Heath & Hampstead Society