

Dear Charles I am sorry that Highgate CAAC has been slow in providing additional comments re the above application after new information was put on line. I have been away and am grateful that you will still take our final comments into account.

Highgate CAAC has not changed its views on this application despite the extra information provided. This is because the development applied for does fundamental damage to the listed heritage asset, Highgate Conservation Area. It also constitutes a clear risk to the pond in grounds which is also a heritage asset as demonstrated in our original objection and to the very valuable sites for nature conservation immediately adjacent on Hampstead Heath. Despite the claims in the application of ecological benefits there is no way that this damage constitutes any form of public benefit which might outweigh the harm done.

The extremely sensitive and important nature of the site in the context of the Highgate CA was at one time specifically recognised by Camden Council in its document 'The fringes of the Heath'. Nothing has occurred since to undermine the conclusions of that document and in fact the permissions which have been granted in the area and their consequences only serve to demonstrate the strength of its conclusions which should never have been allowed to lapse. Hampstead Heath, and Millfield lane are a treasured feature of the area enjoyed by over 10 million Londoners a year. Access to tranquil green spaces like these are increasingly REGOGNISED AS ESSENTAIL FOR THE WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES. It is hard to understand how this benefit can be damaged by the permission given private to a private development of the site which will benefit at the most 2 families. The increased use of the lane raises issues of safety while the damage TO WATER FLOWS IS POTENTIALLY DISASTROUS TO THE BIRD SANCTUARY AND THE ON SITE POND.

This application must be refused. Susan Rose Chair Highgate CAAC