

Mike & Anne Crabtree

3rd November 2011

LDF Team
London Borough of Haringey
River Park House (6th Floor)
Wood Green
London
N22 8HQ

Dear Sir,

Re-designation of Pinkham Woods

We are both fundamentally opposed to the proposed re-designation of the area formerly known as Friern Barnet Sewage Treatment site from Employment Use to Locally Significant Industrial Use. In the half century since the treatment works ceased operation on the site, it has become a rich ecological area with huge biodiversity. It is now one of only nine sites in Haringey which can be designated as Grade 1 of Borough Importance for Nature conservation.

This proposed re-designation will remove the caveat currently applied to the site that future use must be subject to having no adverse impact on the nature conservation value. Reading the documentation, it is not clear why this proposal has come about other than it was supposedly influenced by the pre-application discussions relating to North London Waste Authority's speculative planning application to site a massive MBT plant on the site, along with the LB of Barnet's proposal to re-site its waste vehicle fleet to the site, which incidentally is outside its own borough boundary.

We find it incredible that LB Haringey should make such a cynical move in support of the NLWA and another Borough which stands to make huge financial gain from redeveloping their current waste vehicle fleet site in Mill Hill. LBH rejected the last planning application by LB Barnet in part on the basis of the impact on the nature conservation value of the site and poor access to public transport.

We oppose because:

- LBH has provided no credible evidence to back the re-designation. Even the consultants appointed by LBH, Hyder Consultancy, points out the threat to biodiversity in its report to the Council.
- There has been no attempt to look at alternatives or to benchmark against other sites to understand if the LSIS designation is appropriate. Identifying the site as part of a green

corridor through north London and protecting it with a Metropolitan Open Space designation would be more appropriate.

- The proposed change will remove or severely compromise the Grade 1 designation and open the way to this naturally developed green site being lost forever, at a time when green space in London is more important than ever.

In summary, LBH should be supporting the protection of green spaces such as this site, and look to extend its value by connecting to other similar spaces to the north and south. Opening the way to destroying this valuable and ecological diverse site in such a cynical way is appalling.

Yours faithfully,

Mike & Anne Crabtree