

From: Ilona Jesnick [friendsofconwayrec@gmail.com]

Sent: 31 October 2011 12:56

To: LDF

Cc: David March; Mike Scholand; Keith Weller; Mick Carman; Frances Carman; Jack Shamash; Philip Sheffield; Howard Davis

Subject: Pinkham Way

On behalf of the Friends of Conway Rec conservation group, I object to a designation of the former Friern Barnet Sewage treatment site as a Locally Significant Industrial Use. The loss of any protection for the nature conservation value of the site would be detrimental to the natural and local environment.

Here in a small site in N14 we have noticed how even the smallest intervention can increase biodiversity and have knock on effects on the perception of the site. We have less litter and antisocial behaviour has decreased markedly. The flora and fauna has increased in species to the benefit of local residents. Even the smallest local site contains eco-systems and natural habitats that can increase ambient value for biodiversity and the welfare of local residents to an extent far exceeding the apparent value if they are noted, conserved and managed.

It is vitally important that Pinkham Way, which is one of only nine sites designated Grade 1 of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation, be conserved as such, given the current speed of degradation of our open spaces. We know how even the loss of front gardens to drive ways has a mounting deleterious effects on the eco-system, so a site as large as Pinkham Way is of premium value to our green space conservation network across the area, as recognised in National policy.

For example, this particular area of North London is a hot spot for the conservation of the rare Stag Beetle, which is hardly found anywhere else in the British Isles. We need everywhere possible to be conserved as bio-diversity safe spots. This site already has a conservation designation, Grade 1. What is the point of giving it such a designation if it can be changed at the snap of fingers because it is convenient to do so and not think more creatively about where a waste site could be situated to cause least disruption of all kinds.

Has Haringey considered whether alternative locations for a waste management site would be appropriate - e.g. Metropolitan Open Land, Local Green Space designation or Green Grid cross-boundary green space, connecting Barnet, Haringey and Enfield?

Obviously this is not the same as grubbing out the Amazon rain-forest - but here in London, even the smallest green space has an ecological value far outstripping its size.

And please note - you will have received many letters of objection on several grounds - but for every concerned person who writes, there will be a hundred who are similarly disturbed, but do not have the means to write their letters of objection. Dr Ilona Jesnick

Friends of Conway Rec

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