

## AGENDA ITEM:

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Meeting	Welsh Harp Joint Consultative Committee (WHJCC)
Date	24 February 2004
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Welsh Harp Management Plan</b>
Report of	Head of Environmental & Neighbourhood Services
Summary	This report presents progress on the Welsh Harp Reservoir Management Plan and related issues.

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Officer Contributors	Steve Presland Head of Environmental and Neighbourhood Services
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	West Hendon
Enclosures	Tree Management Plan (update)
For decision by	WHJCC
Function of	N/A
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in (if appropriate)	N/A

Contact for further information:  
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## **1 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 The committee note the progress of the tree management scheme and heritage lottery project.**
- 1.2 The committee note the progress towards local nature reserve declaration.**

## **2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

- 2.1 See 7.2.

## **3 CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 Ensure greenspaces meet community needs in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## **4 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

- 4.1 The proposed tree management will reduce the risk of financial claims against the council

## **5 FINANCIAL, STAFFING, ICT AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Tree management costs will be contained within existing budgets for such purposes.
- 5.2 Local Nature Reserve declaration will incur legal fees and publicity costs of which LB Barnet will meet its own share, all costs to be contained within existing budgets for such purposes.

## **6 COMMENTS, IF ANY, OF THE COUNCIL'S STATUTORY OFFICERS (Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer)**

- 6.1 None.

## **7 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **Management Plan**

- 7.1** The management plan for 2002-07 is the agreed tool for management of this wildlife resource. The Welsh Harp (Brent) Reservoir is divided into management compartments. Separate prescriptions are written for management works for these compartments and the Management Plan is updated every five years in the light of comments from English Nature and other participatory organisations.

### **Area 4b: Tree and marginal land management options**

- 7.2** Following comments from the Welsh Harp Conservation Group changes have been made to the Tree Management Proposals to incorporate their views, these new proposals are enclosed as Appendix A.

- 7.3 Four willows against which residents have lodged claims of damage (T2-T5) have had works consented by English Nature on 12 January 2004. These trees are the top priority for works as soon as budgets allow.
- 7.4 Members are asked to note the progress of the tree management scheme.

#### **Heritage Lottery Fund Project (HLF)**

- 7.5 Construction of the footpath, accessible viewing platform and hide began as planned on 6 January 2004. This is the final element of the HLF project and should be completed by 30 April 2004.

#### **Local Nature Reserve**

- 7.6 The proposed Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is stated in Barnet's draft UDP. However, LNR declaration in Barnet will require further consideration.

### **8 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1 All Local Nature Reserve and Heritage Lottery Fund details and papers are held in the Greenspaces Section of the Environmental and Neighbourhood Services.
- 8.2 The Welsh Harp Management Plan can be found on Brent Council's website: [www.brent.gov.uk/parks](http://www.brent.gov.uk/parks) find the plan in the biodiversity section.

MO: PJ  
BT: SH

## Appendix A

### Welsh Harp Tree Management Area 4b

Survey 17/9/03

Location	Species	DBH	Stems	Cond	Priority	Recommendations/Works
T1	Common Oak	37	1	Good		None, left for biodiversity
T2	Willow (multi stem)	49	6	Fair	1	Works to T2-T5 have been consented by English Nature 12/1/04: Re-pollard T2 and T3. High Pollard T4 and T5 to about 3 metres. Coppice trunks overhanging water line and footpath.
T3	Willow (multi stem)	45	3	Fair	1	
T4	Willow (multi stem)	33	8	Fair	1	
T5	Willow (multi stem)	31	8	Fair	1	
T6	Willow (multi stem)	32	3	Fair	2	Pollard one at 3 metres Canopy thinning to other tree.
T7	Willow (multi stem)	69	4	Fair	2	
T 8 (group of 6 stools)	Willow (multi stem)	27	22	Poor	3&5	Mixture of the following: Coppice willows near water margin to 1m, to provide ground level regrowth. Pollard to 3 metre, to give low level regrowth, providing screen and bird nesting. Allow views at house level. Agree proportion to be cut prior to cutting season. No works to alder, elder of hawthorn (except H+S where necessary)
	Willow (multi stem)	27	11	Poor	3&5	
	Willow (multi stem)	23	2	Poor	3&5	
	Willow (multi stem)	23	6	Poor	3&5	
	Willow (multi stem)	27	7	Poor	3&5	
	Willow (multi stem)	15	14	Poor	3&5	
	Silver birch	19	1	Fair		None, left for biodiversity
T 9 (group of 2 stools)	Willow (multi stem)	23	16	Fair	4	Pollard to 1 metre, to give low level regrowth, providing screen and bird nesting. Allow views at house level – retain screen to bird hide
	Willow (multi stem)	43	5	Fair	4	
T10	Sycamore	31	1	Fair		None, left for biodiversity
T11	Willow (multi stem)	63	3	Fair	4	Pollard to 1 metre, to give low level regrowth, providing screen and bird nesting. Allow views at house level
T12	Ash	28	1	Fair		None, left for biodiversity
T 13 (group of 11 stools)	Willow (multi stem)	38	6	Fair	5	Trees overhanging gardens and path (health and safety and fire break requirements), reduce back from fence line x 4 m by coppicing to 1m.  If deemed necessary, agreement of work to individual trees, roughly: 50% high canopy retention, 25% high pollarding at 4m 25% high canopy thinning
	Willow (multi stem)	63	1	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	48	12	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	48	14	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	64	3	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	14	10	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	31	14	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	28	4	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	27	4	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	30	1	Fair	5	
	Willow (multi stem)	23	4	Fair	5	
General	Control seedling trees regeneration, control sycamore regeneration, maximise species and diversity, control alien and garden escapes (leave existing mature specimens). Japanese knotweed must be controlled especially where canopy thinning may lead to more vigorous growth.					

## Welsh Harp Tree Management Area 4b

