

NOTES FOR SUBMISSION TO WCC on building site boundaries and trees in Victoria Tower Gardens

These are the officers who have been involved in talks with SVTG:

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And these are the local councillors who have taken an interest:

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These are issues that could be brought up with them. Please choose subjects that interest you and use your own words:

Project Site Area and works

We are not clear what parts of the park will form part of the HMLC construction site. We assume this will involve, as well as the “basement box” for the Learning Centre and HMLC courtyard, a considerable area for the mound, the moved playground and café (+ toilet). WCC should ask DKUHC to provide

- a) a detailed plan of the area of the park which will be hoarded off from the public and
- b) a schedule of dates for erecting those hoardings and for taking them down.

Trees

We would like to ensure that irreversible damage is not caused to trees at any stage – but particularly before the current court case has been resolved.

To build the basement box, as we understand it, the first stage of preparatory work will involve carefully cutting the tree roots and wrapping them to ensure no further damage during the piling work and other stages of construction.

This will nevertheless cause serious damage to the trees, so we must request that WCC ensure that no irreversible damage to trees is caused before it issues full approval for all the planning conditions required for work to start on site – and we request that such full and final approval be issued only after a meeting by WCC’s Planning Committee.

We understand that the HMLC’s Arboricultural Method statement provides for a process through which WCC will be consulted if tree roots of 10 cm diameter or more are required to be cut. Is WCC comfortable that cutting tree roots of a lesser size will not seriously

damage any trees? Can you provide any comfort to park users as to the criteria which will enable WCC to call a halt either to the excavation of the basement box, or to the excavation of the foundations for the Hostile Vehicle Mitigation installation, which will run along the behind the fence, near the roots of the plane trees that border Millbank?

Can you assure us that no other tree roots will be cut outside the basement box?