

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2022/5198/P	Fortune Green and West Hampstead NDF	15/03/2023 16:17:24	OBJ	<p>94 Mill Lane, West Hampstead, NW6 1NH 2022/5198/P</p> <p>The NDF objects strongly to this application to convert viable commercial premises on Mill Lane into residential as it directly contradicts two important policies in the Plan</p> <p>Policy 14: Mill Lane Neighbourhood Centre, which states there will be :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Support for proposals to improve and restore the original character of shop-fronts, including windows, signs and external fittings. ii. Proposals to convert ground floor retail/business space into residential use will not be supported <p>Policy 12: Business, Commercial and Employment Premises and Sites which says that there will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A presumption in favour of retaining existing employment sites. ii. Ensuring that where the redevelopment of existing employment sites takes place, the level of employment floorspace is maintained or increased. iii. The provision of additional and /or new business space <p>In addition LB Camden has recently succeeded in securing Article 4 status for most of the commercial areas in West Hampstead and Fortune Green, including Mill Lane. The NDF presumes this is recognising the necessity of retaining retail and service activity in what is a very densely populated area to support local shopping, reduce vehicle use, and encourage walking. It also seems clear that a thriving and popular community needs to retain and increase diversity of activity if it is to survive, There can be no justification to permit this application to proceed.</p>
2022/5198/P	Michael Simkins	15/03/2023 10:39:37	COMMNT	<p>I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to this proposed change of use and re-development at 94 Mill Lane.. The commercial district of Mill Lane is vital to the social and commercial wellbeing of the community, and to allow the conversion of potential business premises to residential dwellings, even partially as in this case, can only further weaken the prospects for the area's hopes of thriving. The recent decline in the quantity and number of retail businesses in Mill Lane is only because of the recent pandemic: beforehand the area was starting to flourish, with flower shops, cafes and the like populating Mill Lane and thus helping to establish the street as a healthy and inviting area in which to shop, bringing life and dynamism to the community. Aural evidence among the community is that the current owners have no real intention at all of seeking new commercial tenants, and that they are merely waiting to be allowed to claim 'no commercial interest' so that the change of use can be waved through. The glass shop which until recently occupied Number 94 is a prime spot for commercial businesses, and everything should be done to encourage a similar venture of some sort. The consequences of Mill Lane being allowed to fall into being just another residential street would be disastrous for all of us who live here. The retail sector in Mill Lane needs encouragement and nurture rather than a slow death by a thousand cuts.</p>