From: Erik Samuelson
Sent: 15 July 2023 12:55
To: Planning
Cc: David Fowler
Subject: Objection - 2023/2510/P One Museum Street

I am writing to object to this planning application.

I am not a resident of the area but I am a frequent visitor and for many years have enjoyed the environment and the historic skyline which would, under the proposals, be changed substantially and for ever.   They would also set a dreadful precedent for more high rise buildings in the immediate area.

Specifically:

- The tallest building will now be 20 metres higher than the one it replaces. This is unnecessarily high and will adversely affect the views from Bedford Square, the British Museum and Drury Lane
- The tower is too bulky and not consistent with the local environment into which it would be introduced
- The plan (which seems to me to be only a little different from the previous version) pays insufficient attention to its relationship with the historic buildings within the Conservation Area
- Several old buildings within the conservation area on West Central and Museum Streets will be demolished or gutted. This is in direct conflict with the council's Conservation Policies and those of the Greater London Authority which promote the retention of existing buildings and retrofitting them to bring them up to modern standards.
- Demolition of buildings adds to climate change and was strongly opposed by the Chair of the Commons Environmental Audit Committee in its report in 2022. Existing buildings have a significant amount of locked-in carbon, which is wasted each time they get knocked down to be rebuilt with newly created materials, a process which produces yet more emissions on top of the ones created in manufacturing the materials for the new building

These matters need remedying for the plan to be the positive contribution it could be to the area and so I am formally requesting that the council take my objections into consideration when deciding the application.

Erik Samuelson

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