

Dear Ms Peck,

I understand you are the planning officer in charge of making a decision about the proposed development on Swains Lane and I am contacting you to voice my opinion on the scheme and the latest set of visuals the developers have produced.

I honestly cannot see how the proposed development could be more out of kilter with the area if they tried. At present I am a regular visitor to shop and dine on Swains Lane but this would stop were the development to go ahead. The road and its surrounding area are unique and provide a vital respite from the sort of ubiquitous architecture the developers are proposing on the site.

Furthermore I feel this development would cause considerable traffic congestion in the area. A quick visit to any Tesco Express or Sainsbury's Local in the area would explain why - these shops are supplied by heavy goods vehicles so that the supermarket chains can cut down on delivery costs and deliver to multiple London stores in one go (as opposed to independent shops which generally have deliveries made by vans). These large lorries cause enormous traffic problems when they park in small London streets to carry out their deliveries. They block the road and cause local traffic to queue as they attempt to go round the stationary lorry.

Finally, you might be aware that Swains Lane is one of the most famous spots in London for cyclists - if not the most famous hill climb in London. It has been included in many lists of top 100 hill climbing destinations for cyclists in the country. Cyclists from all over London travel to the area to ride up the hill in a relatively (by London standards) traffic free environment. Many of these cyclists then spend money in the cafes on Swains Lane. Should this development go ahead I know many of these cyclists will simply avoid the area as they will not want to deal with the dangerous meeting situations caused by traffic building up as deliveries are made.

Thank you for listening to my appeal.

Kind regards,
Mikael Buck

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Hello Amanda,

I am emailing you to voice my disapproval of the proposed development of Swains Lane.

I believe that the re worked design still is far too dominant in scale for the plot. It lacks detail and i think the proportions are all wrong. I also believe that a development on this scale will ruin the village feel of swains lane that i have enjoyed for the last 6 years.


I am very concerned that the light in the street will be forever affected and the increase in traffic and population will turn this beautiful corner of Hampstead into another homogenised housing complex. There is nothing in the design that responds to the feel of the street. My fear is that it will dominate this area and ruin it .

I hope that you will make the planners reconsider the designs.

best wishes

John Stevenson

J O H N S T E V E N S O N



Hallo Amanda,

I am writing to register my disappointment at the latest proposals for the Swains Lane development of flats. The "new" design seems to offer little or no change to the previous one.

The whole scale of the development feels wrong in the surroundings - I have grown up and lived in the area all my life and have found Swains Lane to be one of the last local areas that has not become homogenised architecturally and business-wise. The new flats will close down the existing businesses and encourage franchises and chains to move in in their place.

The daylight in the street to the existing structures will be highly compromised. I spend a lot of time in the street and the general mood between existing business owners and residents towards the proposal is grim and disappointed. Why are the developers not doing more to canvas the local residents and businesses as to what would be acceptable to them?

I would be interested to know what the NEED is for such a development? Are these flats going to be for private buyers? Are any of them going to be given over to council tenants and provide much-needed homes for people without them? Or is it for an investor to make a quick buck in a highly desirable area? I hope it is not the latter - there is so much to be lost by building these flats and not much to be gained in this case, apart from lining the pocket of someone already wealthy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope you will take my concerns and those of others seriously,

regards,

Susannah



Dear Amanda Peck

I have just viewed the new drawings of proposed developments at Swains Lane and have to say I am deeply disappointed by the paucity of vision shown by the designers for the Listowel Estate. Surely they can come up with something more appropriate and less dreary than this.

I really hope the planning committee rejects these latest proposals and demands a design that will give more character to the area, not one that kills the existing character stone dead.

The Listowel Estate comes up with one dull solution after another. What kind of team do they have working on these designs I wonder? I feel they need to find a team of designers with real vision and some sensitivity for the area and the people living there.

Thankyou.

Peter Dockley



PLANNING APPLICATION DETAILS

Year: 2013

Number: 6674

Letter: P

Planning application address: Swains Lane

Title: Mrs.

Your First Name: Harriet

Initial:

Last Name: Bourne

Organisation: 05250061

Comment Type: Comment


Postcode: NW5 1QT

Address line 1: 3 Hillside

Address line 2: Highgate Road

Address line 3: 3 Hillside

Postcode: NW5 1QT



Your comments on the planning application: I am concerned that the planting as set out in the landscape statement will be entirely reliant on the residents maintenance, as access to all landscape will be through private apartments. The choice of trees for the roof gardens is very strange particularly, Prunus avium, this naturally grows over 12m high with a spread of over 8m so cannot see how these large trees can thrive long term in planters.

It should be a conditioned that ALL planters are supplied with an automatic irrigation system that works centrally and is managed the building maintenance company to ensure long term sustainability of the planting.

IF YOU WISH TO UPLOAD A FILE CONTAINING YOUR COMMENTS THEN USE THE LINK BELOW

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No files attached

ABOUT THIS FORM

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Customer feedback and enquiries
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