



HAMPSTEAD LANE, NW3 7JR



Mr Charles Thuaire
Committee Services
Camden Town Hall
Judd Street
London
WC1H 9JE

28 July 2014

Dear Mr Thuaire,

Development Control Committee, 31 July 2014, 7pm

Agenda Item 7(8) : Planning Application No: 2013/7242/P
ATHLONE HOUSE HAMPSTEAD LANE, LONDON, N6 4RU

I am writing on behalf of the Friends of Kenwood. Unfortunately the Friends of Kenwood did not receive an opportunity to comment earlier on the above application, and the officer's report which will be presented at the meeting on 31 July does not seem to be currently available online.

However, I would be grateful if you could record our opposition to the proposal to demolish Athlone House and replace it with an 8-bedroom Class C3 dwelling house with car park, swimming pool, plant rooms and associated landscaping.

The Friends of Kenwood was established in 1979 as the Friends of the Iveagh Bequest, 50 years after the Act of Parliament where Lord Iveagh bequeathed Kenwood House to the nation in perpetuity. Our role is to ensure that the special qualities of Kenwood House, its collection and its extensive grounds are safeguarded for the benefit and inspiration of the public. The House and grounds are widely considered to be one of London's great landmarks and our purpose is to help protect and preserve it for future generations.

Any development which significantly impinges upon the sightlines to and from Kenwood House, and which is clearly visible from the estate is of great concern to us.

Our grounds for objection are:

- Although built subsequently to Kenwood, the existing Athlone House has been part of the Kenwood horizon for over 100 years. As such, it is part of a view we seek to protect.
- The proposed higher and larger replacement would seriously mar the aspect.

We firmly oppose the application and fully endorse your recommendation to refuse the application.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Mathez Davey
Chair
Friends of Kenwood