From: Thuaire, Charles
Sent: 08 December 2014 11:29

To: Planning

Subject: FW: OBJECTION TO PLANNING APPLICATION 2014/6845/P – ROYAL FREE

HOSPITAL

Please register this on m3 as an objection to 2014/6845/P thanks

Charles Thuaire Senior Planning Officer

Telephone:

From: Eleanor Engle

Sent: 07 December 2014 00:21

To: Thuaire, Charles

Subject: OBJECTION TO PLANNING APPLICATION 2014/6845/P - ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL

Dear Charles Thuaire

PLANNING APPLICATION 2014/6845/P - ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL

I wish to object to the Royal Free Hospital's application. The new building would, if built, completely change the character of Hampstead Green.

I live in Hampstead Hill Gardens, very near Hampstead Green and 3 years ago I joined the Frlends of Hampstead Green at the invitation of Linda Chung. The Friends are a group of locals who care very much about the welfare of Hampstead Green. I attend committee meetings to consult with Caroline Birchall, Camden's Nature Conservation Officer, I remove litter from the Green when Camden gets behind with the litter picking, and I join Green Gym seasons when I can when they do work on the Green

Our chief concern is to keep the Green as a wild meadow - it has been a small green space since 1746. It is a unique place, divided into two by a stone-paved path, and the area is laid to grass with around eight trees, species including cherry, red oak and sycamore. The grass is planted with wild flowers and spring bulbs. The area is owned by Camden and is managed for nature conservation with bird boxes and large log piles for insects. Several C19th gas lampposts, now converted to electricity, light the eastem perimeter of the Hampstead Green site, where there is a stone-paved path. Hampstead Green is not open for public access and is left as a site for wildlife, cultivated as a wild flower meadow. In early spriing it is full of daffodils, primroses followed by bluebells and cow parsley.

Though the Green is not open to the public but can be seen by all passers by on 3 sides. If the Royal Free building is built, in place of a hedge, bushes, trees and a garden, on the lower boundary, a huge high brick building would dominate the boundary along the entire length of the Green. The lack of light may well prevent the grass, flowers and trees plants from thriving.

If huge buildings are built right up against an existing feature, this is bound to change the whole nature of that feature. I do not believe The Royal Free has considered the impact on Hqmpstead Green, which is a much loved enclave. Features are not just the space they take up but the surrounding environment too.

The real problems that the proposed new building is much too large and dominating for the surrounding site and will change the character of this area of green, negatively, because it has not been sensitively thought out, except on terms of the new facilities that the Hospital needs.

This is after all a Conservation Area, so please take steps to CONSERVE Hampstead Green as an ancient meadow. Squashed and dominated and deprived of light, the feature will be greatly diminished.

Yours sincerely

Eleanor Engle