

[REDACTED]

From: Whittingham, Gideon
Sent: 03 February 2015 17:46
To: Planning
Subject: FW: Planning application reference 2014/7683/P - support

Gideon Whittingham
Senior Planning Officer (East Area Team)

Telephone: 020 7974 5180

From: DEREK JOHN [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 February 2015 17:39
To: Whittingham, Gideon
Subject: Planning application reference 2014/7683/P

Dear Sir,

I understand you are dealing with the above application setting out the development proposals for William Ellis & Parliament Hill Schools and I wish to make the following comments:

1. For many years both schools have suffered from lack of funding and as a result the buildings and the conditions that the staff and pupils have to endure have deteriorated. It is a credit to the staff and pupils that the standards achieved still manage to reach and in part, exceed the National Average.
2. For the first time in recent years Camden has managed to secure suitable government funding to make a serious improvement to conditions in both schools. Not only has funding been secured but an overall plan has been agreed with both governing bodies and a timetable approved to achieve completion in the next few years. An amazing achievement for our Local council in these dark days of economic restrictions.
- 3 I have been been to 3 public meetings organised by Camden's planning department to help local residents understand and comment on the proposals. There has generally been a welcome to the proposals from the audience at all meetings with a few individual objections.
- 4 The proposals demolish an out of date and un-fit for purpose 1950's building at PHS and provide a wonderful new teaching building overlooking the heath plus a much needed sixth form centre for La Swap

discreetly hidden from view. The proposals have been discussed with local residents and their objections overcome wherever possible. No doubt a few are still not happy but will, forever, be unhappy about any proposal.

For the greater good of all local residents, all children of school age, and the community at large who will benefit from the proposals, please allow the professionals who have designed these wonderful proposals in concert with Camden proceed. Otherwise I am not sure when this window of opportunity will come around again for the advantage of education in the area.

Yours sincerely

Derek John

Chairman, Birkbeck & William Ellis School Trust.