

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2015/0672/P	Anne Taute	Flat 1 54 Russell Square London WC1B 4HR	04/03/2015 16:33:03	OBJ	<p>As a Russell Square resident who is willing to pick up litter and plant bulbs in the Gardens to help preserve the beauty of Russell Square and its surroundings, I have strong objections to this Planning Application.</p> <p>The pavement area all around Russell Square is heavily used by commuters, University students, and visitors to the British Museum. In spite of Camden Council's best efforts, the litter they drop is considerable and floats around the streets and Russell Square Gardens all day. It will be ten times worse if this Application for retail use of six BT telephone kiosks is allowed. In principle it sounds like a great idea, but in practice it will be a disaster.</p> <p>The proposed retail kiosks will take business from the Café in the Gardens which will adversely affect the local community. The Café not only provides excellent service all year round, even in winter when it is difficult to cover costs, but also promotes the Newsletter which keeps the local community informed, and local activities which help support the upkeep of the Gardens.</p> <p>Furthermore, there is already a 'kiosk' which provides snacks to the public and to taxi drivers in the form of the Cabman's Shelter at the north end of Russell Square. It is a National Heritage monument of the Victorian age and will shut down if its business is affected. This would be a great loss to London's attractions and to the community who are even able to enjoy Sunday lunch there.</p> <p>Please do not give your approval to this Planning Application. The negative environmental effects would far outweigh any income to the Council from doing so, and will place a large extra burden on Camden Council's already stretched Environmental Services.</p>
