

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2015/0679/P	Bloomsbury CAAC	c/o Hugh Cullum Architects 61B Judd Street London WC1H 9QT	19/03/2015 21:53:54	OBJ	<p>The Advisory Committee objects strongly to the application to change the use of a BT telephone box to a self-contained retail kiosk. This proposed commercial enterprise will impact negatively on the easy passage of pedestrians who walk in large numbers along Southampton Row; it will also impact negatively on the quality of life of those who live and work in the neighbourhood. [DP26: Managing the impact of development on occupiers and neighbours].</p> <p>In particular the proposal goes against Camden's Policy DP25: Conserving Camden's heritage. The post box outside no 21 Southampton Row is close to Sicilian Avenue, a notable early 20th century open air arcade. Designed by R J Worley in 1906-10 for the Bedford Estate, it is grade II listed and is a notable landmark in the Conservation Area. The change of use of a BT phone box outside number 21 into a retail kiosk completely undermines the status of this arcade. It will increase a sense of clutter on the street. It will have a negative impact on the views.</p> <p>The unwelcome intrusion of an inappropriate focus for commercial activity will certainly not preserve and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area. The addition of advertising, self service coffee machines or whatever else is proposed for the BT telephone kiosk will cause harm to the conservation area. The planning application should be refused.</p>
