

Henry, Genna

From: Moran, Kathryn
Sent: 13 May 2015 14:50
To: Planning
Subject: FW: Mansfield Bowling Club Ref 2015/1444/P



Kathryn Moran
Senior Planning Officer

Telephone: 020 7974 5709

-----Original Message-----

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Subject: Mansfield Bowling Club Ref 2015/1444/P

Dear Ms Moran,



I wish to object strongly to the application because it constitutes a change of use, away from 'leisure and open space' to 'residential housing'. This would be a retrograde step for a number of reasons:

1. The land was originally gifted to the local area for leisure activities.
2. There is a shortage of leisure provision in Camden, which this development would reduce further. Camden's policy, quite rightly, is to increase 'leisure and open space'
3. The proposal claims that it would 'enable' the improvement of the existing leisure facilities on the site. But it would do so by using only a small portion of the open space for this purpose, as tennis courts, while most of it would be devoted to in the provision of private gardens and car parking space. This is an improvement on the current provision only because the site is currently not in use and therefore not fulfilling its intended use at all.
4. The existing current building on the site is a local eyesore, which should be demolished, but to replace it with the proposed dense private residential development is quite out of character both with the conservation area status of Dartmouth Park and with the existing designation of the space.
5. Instead we need a proposal that seriously engages with the potential local community demand for use of the site for leisure activities.

I therefore object to the planning proposal, and urge its rejection. The space should be developed in the interests of the local community, with leisure activities its main focus.



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