

07/07/15

Dear Mr Tulloch, Sergeant Pymont and Mansell, and Local Councillors,

I'm writing to you all about the planning application for 85 Camden Mews which is to be heard at the Town Hall on 16th July, which I understand proposes the use of the 'Billiard Table' on Canteloves Road as a building development area. This proposal raises major concerns related to the safety and wellbeing of local residents and the potential for a major increase of the risk of crime and violence. I have also copied Catherine Hays Chair of Camden Square Neighbourhood Association and a number of local residents directly affected as we are coalescing on this planning application.

I myself live at 77 Camden Mews just on the corner of Camden Mews and Canteloves Road adjacent to what has become locally known as the 'Billiard Table'. I amongst many of my neighbours have been working closely with both Camden Square Neighbourhood Association, Camden Council, Local Councillors and the Community Police Team based at Kentish Town since 2005 specifically about the Billiard Table, and the many issues we've had to address on this site, including major drug dealing and heavy abuse, violent assaults, robbery, gang violence, criminal damage to motor vehicles, vandalism, anti-social behaviour, dog attacks and fighting with damage to trees on the Billiard Table, and the erection of homeless shelters onto the adjacent building compound.

Planning Proposal

Mr Tulloch I understand you're the lead planning officer and I believe it is critical that you have a full understanding of the history and context of the 'Billiard Table', which is proposed in the planning application to be used for the location of associated building constructions e.g Portakabins, equipment and demolition site, which will amount to approximately 860 tons of earth removal on the basis of the current proposal. I can imagine that you may not have been visibility of the many hundreds of communications there have been over the years with Camden Council and the various departments including, Chief Executives Office, Environment, and Highways about the Billiard Table and that you maybe entirely unaware of the history. I would recommend strongly that you to take seriously my neighbours and my communication and familiarise yourself with this context in order to consider your recommendations in light of this and advise the council members accordingly, in considering the planning application for 85 Camden Mews.

The current planning proposal for 85 Camden Mews includes the use of the Billiard Table site as an essential and necessary component for the design and execution of the planning application, which therefore makes the use of this site entirely relevant to the hearing of the application for approval by the Planning Committee. If this is the case, then I believe the current design should be reconsidered due to the potential risk of crime and personal safety of the local residents and the application denied as it stands and readapted and submitted.

I have attached a document which is a small selection and sample of emails since 2005 up until 2014 between Camden Council, Camden Square Neighbourhood Association, Community Police and local residents which details many of the issues I've referred to and will give you a good overview of the continuous issues, risk and concerns that have arisen in relation to this site. As you'll discover the 'Billiard Table' has been an attractive area for building developments with previous attempts to locate Portakabins and associated equipment but none of them have successfully managed to remain on this site, due to the directly related crime and anti-social behaviour arising and resulting concerns by local residents.

Only last year the Local councillor Phil Jones, Camden Square Neighbourhood Association, Camden Council and the Community Police had to deal with a serious issues of vandalism, homelessness, dog

attacks, physical assault, drug and alcohol abuse, threatening behaviour etc.. due to the replacement of the wall alongside the Billiard Table which involved the erection of a compound on this site for a limited period but one assumes it was on a much smaller scale than that proposed for redevelopment of 85 Camden Mews. See attached images from 2014 to give you an example of the crime and anti-social behaviour

Crime Prevention re Billiard Table and Canteloves Park

Sergeant Mansell and Pymont, I know there is a new set of Community Police Officers at Kentish Town and am unsure how much knowledge you have of the longstanding issues associated with the Billiard Table but the Community Policing Team has over the past 10 years established a positive relationship of trust and confidence with Camden Mews residents in responding to these criminal issues over the years; and have worked hard to proactively reduce and prevent crime at and around the Billiard Table much to their credit. The Billiard Table is strongly linked and associated with the crime and anti-social behaviour issues since it is directly across the road from Canteloves Park (Skate Park) where drug dealing, violent assault, robbery, knife crime and gang violence are a continuing issue that have to be managed and policed. There is an overspill and inter-relationship between the two areas and one goes with the other.

As a group of neighbours we undertook a campaign a number of years ago to clean up Canteloves Park and increase policing it due to the criminal incidents and behaviour that were taking place and the impact it was having on the those living in Camden Mews and the Square, and and not least the risk to children and young people using the park. It involved the Local Councillors and the Chief Executive of Camden Council who agreed the conditions were unacceptable and commissioned an audit and immediate action to clean the park up involving a number of different Council departments and of course working very closely with the local police. Overall this partnership between the Council, Police and local residents was very successful and much work, commitment and effort has gone into this on all sides, but the Billiard Table was a critical part of this approach, so this planning application is directly relevant to your policing and crime reduction approach in Canteloves Park and the local neighbourhood in and around Camden Mews. As an example, only two nights ago the Police were called to 'gang violence' in Canteloves Park and were trying to locate suspects at the Billiard Table where they'd run off to. As a group of neighbours in and around Camden Mews we would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Community Police Sergeants to discuss these crime related issues further in relation to this planning proposal if that is possible?

Panda Way Housing Development and links to the Billiard Table re crime prevention

We have also as a group of neighbours worked closely with the housing development on Pandian Way to address the fly-tipping by neighbours and others, crime and anti-social behaviour that has been taking place there over the years, again the two neighbouring areas are very closely linked and where there is a weakness in one it has implications for the other given the very close proximity, and certainly the use of the Billiard Table for a building development area would have a direct impact on Pandian Way and the residents living there.

Vehicle Access to Camden Mews

From my neighbour Les Wies and my perspective we both live on each side of the Billiard Table and both have vehicular access adjacent to the Billiard Table which also makes this unviable in using this site.

My neighbours have adequately highlighted the concerns of making Camden Mews a two way vehicular access for building development purposes and we have already experienced the damage to the Mews from heavy HGV vehicles, especially the cobblestones and the image used in the planning application is far from accurate in illustrating the vehicles parked on the Mews, and many of us have

a history of HGV's damaging our properties, please see attached a more accurate photo that should accompany the planning application.

Councillors and representing local residents interests and safety

Phil and Angela as our local councillors you know only too well what we have gone through in the neighbourhood in relation to the Billiard Table and the risks associated with the area over the years and have always been supportive. Can I urge you to use your position as our Councillors to take account of the local residents and recommend or influence the planning committee and planning officer in finding another solution for the development of this property, if using the Billiard Table is a dependant factor either in the current design proposed. We understand there is actually access from Camden Road as the current developer who has made the application actually owns the property directly behind 85 Camden Mews and it has easy access, which would mean far less disruption for a whole street of residents living on Camden Mews than a few people in the residence he owns on Camden Road. This appears a more fair and just approach.

Camden Square Neighbourhood Association

Catherine can I request that this planning proposal is put on the agenda of the next meeting of the CSNA as an urgent matter and who you might suggest we might invite to discuss this from Camden Council and/or any of our Local Councillors.

Overall, I consider the history and experience of trying to use the Billiard Table as a site for building redevelopment is a major risk and threat to those who live adjacent and in close proximity to this site, and that there is more than enough evidence to demonstrate this is not viable and safe for local residents and will only result in the Council and Police having to heavily resource the area due to the associated anti-social behaviour and criminal behaviour and incidents that will result from such a planning proposal if it is approved. A rethink is urgently needed.

Given the gravity of the issues I've raised in this communication I trust this information and context will be shared with the planing committee in advance of the meeting on the 16th July.

Many thanks and look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Annie Mullins













**Billiard Table Proposed for Builders Site for Planing
Application 85 Camden Mews - Examples of violence,
vandalism, gang violence, drug abuse, anti-social
behaviour, threatening behaviour, homelessness,
crime 2005 – 2014**

**August 2014 – Replacement of Wall on Billiard Table,
Homelessness, Violence, Dangerous Dogs, Drug Abuse,
Vandalism – emails between Local Councillors Community
Police**

Jones, Phil (Councillor)

To

'Annie Mullins' <

3 Aug 2014

Annie

I am extremely sorry to hear about these issues – it must be a total nightmare and clearly totally unacceptable that local residents are having to put up with it. Not sure of the latest but I have now raised with council officers to seek an urgent solution.

Thanks to Dave and our ever vigilant community reps, Jenny and Catherine, for their efforts.

I will be in touch and I will walk through there tomorrow to have a look. Let me know if you want to discuss.

Best wishes
Phil

Councillor Phil Jones

From: Annie Mullins [mailto:**Sent: 01 August 2014 15:54**
To: < >
Cc: >
Subject: Re: Request for help re management of Council Contractor's site & erection
homeless shelter on Billiard Table

Thanks Dave - good to hear from you. I'm out this afternoon down in the city at present.

Last night he set the camp up about midnight and it felt like he was waiting, so I guess I'll need to ring tonight. Would it be possible to warn the guy that the neighbours are going to do this and give him a chance to move on. It's really not appealing to have the disruption at this time of the night - but I guess it'll have to be done, but I'd prefer to give him some warning this is going to be the action.

Knock on my door if you're patrolling late tonight.

Thanks
Annie

Sent from my iPhone

On 1 Aug 2014, at 15:06, < > wrote:
[Hi Annie](#)

[I will be visiting the hostel near to you later today to follow up on trying to relocate one of the residents which should solve these issues, we will be patrolling tonight and for the next two evenings but only up until 10pm, if you see these persons setting up camp after this can you call 101 and request a police unit to attend the location and to move them off and to possibly find them alternative accommodation, I know the safer streets team have targeted this male but he is currently not working with them and does not want to go to his hostel.](#)

[I'll do my best to sort this out but please call Police when they start setting up camp to get them checked out and moved on.](#)

[Thankyou](#)

[Dave.](#)

**Dave Gibson | PC 324EK|Cantelowes SNT Dedicated Ward
Officer| Camden BOCU**

MetPhone 789357 | **Telephone** 0208 7212

756 | **Email** David.Gibson2@met.police.uk or Cantelowes.SNT@met.police.uk

Address Kentish Town SNT, 99 Kentish Town Road, NW18PB

Email from Annie Mullins to Community Police, Local Councillors and Camden Council

On 31 July 2014 22:33,
Annie Mullins < > wrote:

Hi all,

Apologies for first email with out a subject line. Please see below.

My apologies if I've copied in anyone incorrectly to address the matters concerning Cantelowes Road and Camden Mews and the Billiard Table. Please find attached a number of images connected to the issues highlighted below. I'd be grateful if you could also forward this email to whoever in Camden Council is responsible for the issues outlined below.

Council Contractor removing and rebuilding walls

For the past several weeks a council contractor has been knocking down replacing a number of walls for properties on Camden Road i.e. 225 Camden Road. Whilst we all appreciate this takes time and the work needs to be undertaken I'm afraid the whole management of the site and the issues arising are of great concern to myself who lives directly adjacent to this work and my neighbours.

Firstly, the Contractor is not removing a rubble that has been building up, they did remove the rubble initially into the job and for the last two weeks it has remained untouched, which is both hazardous and unsightly, given the traffic of people and children that pass through this area via the Billiard Table, and anti-social issues that arise in this location. As the police and everyone knows this is a notorious site for drug taking and the development and management of this building project has only undone some of the hard efforts of the Council, Councillors and the Camden Square Neighbourhood Association and the police themselves.

Portaloo

The portaloo is directly outside my home and is not being emptied and cleaned on a regular basis. On one occasion the smell had a 20 metre's effect and the main workman building the walls actually went and bought a bottle of bleach to help address the awful smell coming from it. Given the hot weather this needs to be addressed urgently.

There has also been a problem with a man whose dog was attacking other dogs, which the police addressed and took the dog and the owner into custody, following the attack of my neighbour's dog who had to receive Veterinary attention for 5 days following the incident. There have been I understand many reports of this happening preceding this incident, which has been resolved by the removal of the dog.

Erection of Homeless Shelter on to the building enclosure

The same gentleman has been sleeping rough for several weeks on the Billiard and is joined by others, including one female and another man. Last night there were 3 to 4 people sleeping outside my house in the makeshift shelter, which is adjoining the building enclosure put in place by the Council Contractor that has made this possible.

I am very disappointed by the irresponsible behaviour of the Contractor who knows about the erection of the homeless shelter and the use of their equipment for this purpose and their failure to address it in any way, since they visit the site every morning to start work and see the homeless shelter and the people utilising the Contractor's equipment for shelter.

We have seen some 'out reach workers' visiting the main gentleman whose dog was removed but there seems to be little success in their interventions. If the police are to visit it needs to be at night and arrangements made to house these people but remaining in this vicinity is really not appropriate or acceptable.

Build of detritus and rubbish

There is now a considerable build up of rubbish from the homeless people, see pictures attached. We have removed some of it ourselves as the build up is really getting unmanageable. Again I find it difficult to understand where the contractors managing the cleaning of the streets are not reporting the difficulties and organising some action, it is wholly unfathomable about the levels of communication between Contractors and the Council.

Threatening atmosphere and violence

The atmosphere and attraction of people using drugs and drinking alcohol in this locality has increased, and the whole atmosphere is very threatening to walk past, particularly at night, and has already highlighted many people have to pass this enclosure through to Camden Square and the surrounding roads from the public transport on Camden Road, and not least the children and elderly people returning from Canteloves Park opposite or the shops. There are a lot of arguments and threatening / aggressive behaviour being exhibited every evening. I really isn't acceptable given this is a main thoroughfare and access point for many people living here.

Vandalism to Motor Scooter & riding on public paths

A motor scooter has been vandalised during this time and is constantly being ripped apart and appears to be abandoned by the owner. I have rang the police on two occasions about the motor scooter one including the hot-wiring

of the motor bike with it running completely on its own. This vehicle needs to be removed urgently.

In addition some youth are now regularly driving their motor scooters through the public footpaths during the day and the evening.

Your help to resolve these deteriorating issues

Can I request your help in addressing these urgent issues, as it is escalating and attracting difficulties that much work over the years has been done to increase the public safety of this local vicinity, namely drug taking, anti-social behaviour, violence and now homelessness.

My first request is that the Contractor responsible for the build up of rubble removes it immediately and takes away the enclosure, so building the homeless shelter is not feasible on the land.

The Police or whoever from the Council become involved in removing these people from this vicinity to a more appropriate housing.

More policing for the drug taking that is taking place in the evenings at this site.

The detritus and rubbish needs to be removed pathways cleared - they are being ignored by street cleaning at present.

I understand my neighbour Anthony Taylor has been in touch with Canteloves Police about the same matter and was reassured that they would try and address the concerns about the homeless people sleeping on the Billiard Table. We understand the homeless people sleeping in the self-made shelter do actually have hostel places in Camden and Hackney.

Overall, we are at a loss what to do and we have been patient and understanding but this is now coming to an end and we will have to seek further redress if this is not dealt with quickly and efficiently.

We would really appreciate your help on this matter

Many thanks

Annie Mullins

**11th April 2012 – fly tipping email to
Environment Camden Council**

From: [Annie Mullins <>](#)

Subject: Re: Fly Tipping Refuse Camden Road and Canteloves Road

Date: 11 April 2012 20:03:54 GMT+01:00

To:

>

Hi David - thanks for coming back to me so quickly and I'm impressed the rubbish has already been removed this evening.

Unfortunately, I'm not in a position to see anyone fly tipping unless I'm passing by at the time. However, as I understand it, there is a CCTV camera directly opposite this spot in Canteloves Gardens, which overlooks this part of Camden Road due to the anti social behaviour that takes place in this small area. Perhaps it might be worth investigating whether you can actually find any images of the culprits doing the fly tipping, if it's by car I'm sure you might be able to see the number plates of the vehicles involved. I've copied in the safer neighbourhood police into this email, as you could liaise directly with them to review the CCTV footage.

The other issue I'm really puzzled by, is that there are lots of council staff, contractors and other community service staff in the area almost everyday going into the park and otherwise but none of them seem to take responsibility for observing this kind of public disorder and it takes residents to have to complain and make a fuss - is there any way Viola contractors and those working on behalf of council can have some kind of briefing to report or take responsibility for these kind of incidents in area and the community which they serve?

Just to conclude I appreciate your efforts and I don't wish to simply complain but maybe it's an issue the neighbourhood association could be briefed on more generally by the Council jointly with the Safer Neighbourhood Police, as I think we'd really appreciate understanding how the Council Services and particularly the Environment services work and what we can all do together to keep on top of these kind of difficulties both with the community and police. For those of us living here, one thing leads to another, we're also busy trying to combat the drug problems and once the area begins to look seedy and unkempt it's taken as a message to behave badly, which is why we're quite vigilant on trying to keep the area in good order from an environmental perspective, so that we give a clear signal to those with intent to either commit crime or participate in anti-social behaviour to see that it's an area that is actually cared about. I hope that makes sense and that you understand our wider concerns about rubbish, fly-tipping and the general upkeep of the area.

Once again many thanks for your help on this matter and I'd be interested in exploring the wider issues.

Thanks
Annie Mullins

11th Apr 2012, at 17:52, From Environmental Manager Camden Council re Fly tipping on Billiard Table

Dear Annie

Thanks for letting us know about this. I have instructed our cleansing contractor Veolia to remove the items as soon as possible. They should be removed within the hour. Camden are working to change the behaviour of those who fly tip rubbish on the street in this anti social manner. If you have any information on who may have dumped these items it would be gratefully received.

I have asked the Environmental Management Officer for your area Stephen Russell to add this location and the other you have identified to the hot spot locations for regular monitoring.

If you notice any fly tipping around the local area in future you can report it to our helpline on 02079744444 or online at <http://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/content/transport-and-streets/road-and-pathway-maintenance/twocolumn/Report-a-problem-on-the-street-in-camden.en> to ensure the problem is dealt with as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Kind Regards

David Quigley
Senior Environmental Management Officer

Telephone: 020 7974 3978

From: Annie Mullins []
Sent: 11 April 2012 17:37
To:
Cc:
Subject: Fly Tipping Refuse Camden Road and Canteloves Road

Hi all,

Please find attached two photos of rubbish dumped on Camden Road and junction of Canteloves Road (Billiard Table) on the door-step of where I live. It has now been there for a considerable time, at the very least since before Easter and there doesn't appear to be any attempt to remove it

from the street - this is having a very negative impact on those of us living very close to this.

Can I please have an explanation why this is, or what the policy is for removing such refuse? There are well known hot spots for this on our doorstep including Pandian Way - can these locations not be regularly checked for fly tipping, which at times can be a health and accident risk to pedestrians as the photos below indicate. Can I request that both areas are checked on a regular basis as it really is becoming a health and public hazard.

Many thanks

Annie

2009 Billiard Table (Canteloves Road and proposed re-development), Stolen York Stone Paving Stones & council consultation re Billiard Table

From: Annie Mullins < >

Subject:

Date: 10 October 2009 19:41:10 BST

To:

Hi Catherine,

Just to follow on from Margaret's response.

Fortunately, I was able to make the residents association on Monday and was able to catch up on what's been happening with regard to the proposals for the Billiard Table, which as you know I live directly adjacent to.

I am, however, somewhat alarmed as on Wednesday morning I observed surveyors measuring up the Billiard Table, and also measuring the existing Pelican crossing for modification into a Toucan Crossing on Camden Road, as set out in the recent proposals, as I understand it. It would be helpful if we could clarify why the surveyors were out measuring up the Billiard Table; it may be necessary for further detailed consultation plans, but it could also be that the process to implement these

changes is already proceeding ahead and that the consultation process may just be a token gesture, which I trust it isn't.

I hope the Council and our Councilors will be observant to the views and feeling of the local residents given we have been dealing with the Billiard Table for several years now to resolve the issues and difficulties we have been experiencing (including drug dealing, mugging, gang warfare, burglary, young people driving motor scooters on the pavements, as well as anti-social behaviour), and not least the level of stress and time it has cost all of us. It is ironic that after all the Council and Councilors efforts and success to achieve the improvements, which have resulted in the first summer of no difficulties at the Billiard Table, a set of plans should suddenly appear for which there is unanimous disapproval.

A further issue raised as the Neighbourhood Association was the fact we are in the midst of a recession and the actual budget required to complete making the Billiard Table a more pleasant and safer place is not a huge amount, if the focus is on the outstanding items identified, such as the reinstatement of the wall. It would be a waste of tax payers money to tear down the Billiard Table when there are other difficult spots in Camden that could benefit from the cash infusion and there is little if any support for the Billiard Table proposals. Can I make a request that we are informed what the estimated cost actually is for the Council's proposals?

The major issue outstanding with regard to the Billiard Table is the reinstatement of the rear garden wall of 226 Camden Road that runs adjacent to the Billiard Table. This is what should be being addressed.

Perhaps most worrying is the plan for the Zebra crossing at the exit of the Billiard Table to allow cyclists to cross Camden Road without stopping. This is particularly poignant, given the death of the elderly gentleman last week crossing Camden Road.

Since I've returned to Camden this week, I've had considerable communication and meetings with people in the neighbourhood about the proposed development for the Billiard Table. I can state categorically that there is a huge amount of consensus and a willingness to take action if the views of local residents are ignored, but I really hope this won't be necessary.

From:
Sent: 07 October 2009 13:36
To: Chapman, Emma
Cc:
Subject: Billard Table consultation

Dear Emma,

The Camden Square Neighbourhood Association met Monday night; one topic discussed was the Billiard Table and the recent consultation the council conducted. We overwhelmingly endorsed the findings of the residents gathered at the public consultation meeting as follows:

- 1) the York Stone pavement and mature trees on the verge are to be preserved
- 2) barriers are to be installed at the other end of the walkways to control the speed of cycles
- 3) owners of the broken down wall must be pressed to rebuild and restore their brick wall
- 4) brick walls surrounding the verge need to be secured to curtail nuisance problems at night

Everybody at our neighbourhood association meeting expressed admiration for the very comprehensive consultation you have conducted. We look forward to your detailed proposal to carry out the wishes of the residents. Thank you!

Best regards,

Catherine (Hays)
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association

Aril / May 2008 - Emails Local Councillors and Community Police re Burglaries and increase in major drug dealing on Billiard Table, Anti Social Behaviour etc...

To: >

Cc:

Sent: Monday, 27 October, 2008 15:04:11

Subject: DRUG DEALING returns to the 'Billiard Table' on Sat 25 OCT 08 at 16:55 + Sun 26 OCT 08 at 21:30...

Amar,

Just to confirm my calls over the weekend regarding the Drug Dealing which seems to have returned to the 'Billiard Table' once again...

Sat 25 OCT 08 at 16:55 - [2 female + 1 male]

3 wasted 'Junkies' were hanging around the entrance to Mandy's property at 226 Camden Road waiting for a Dealer to show up... He did shortly after... He is a local black 'Dealers' who we have seen operating in this vicinity previously... He is in his 20/30's , athletic build + height 5'8" or 5'9" and wears a black woollen hat with a dark fitted quilted jacket... After completing the transaction they headed down towards TESCO on Camden Road...

Sun 26 OCT 08 at 21:30 - [a large mixed groups of males + females / black + white]

This group of 'Junkies' were hanging around the 'Billiard Table' agitated and sounding off while they used their mobiles to contact the 'Dealer'... He turned up... A disagreement broke out.. They started to fight and it all turned into a frenzy... The 'Dealer' was the same black man from Saturday... Immediately I contacted 999... A POLICE patrol van turned up very quickly onto Cantelowes Road and the large group of 'Junkies' + 'Dealer/s' dispersed onto Camden Road heading north past 228 / 230 Camden Road with some crossing towards the Cantelowes Gardens - Bus Stop near 'North Point' and along Pandian Way to escape...

I DON'T know if these recent incidents are just isolated...

I DON'T know if they have anything to do with the NEW lighting installed on the 'Billard Table' ... [Not nearly as bright as the previous Double Headed Lighting Columns] which were removed from this location on Friday 24 OCT 08...

I DON'T know if this has anything to do with the FLASH Cam relocated to another Cantelowes dealing 'hot spot' which is pushing the 'Junkies' + 'Dealers' back towards the 'Billiard Table'...

Needless to say, THEY ARE COMING BACK.....

Just this minute received your e-mail about the 2 two black males who were arrested earlier today for dealing over the weekend...

Great news and clearly a result...!!! It may just be them... I certainly hope so....

Many thanks

Andrew

To: >

Cc:

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Many thanks

Andrew

10th May 2008 – Emails to Community Police Kentish Town re Youth Violence & Drug Dealing Billiard Table / Skate Park

To
CC

...
10 May 2008

Hi Sergeant Amar,

Attached are some photos of young youths we had difficulties with on Friday evening in Canteloves Rd / Camden Rd about 5.30 pm. Whilst they are quite young they did throw bottles at us and you'll see from the photo's they were on the fence over looking Mandy Martinez's home, who being heavily pregnant we were very concerned about, as they were being abusive to her. There was also a motorcycle running up and down the pavement, which we're not sure whether it had anything to do with them or not.

These youth are related to Canteloves Park, it is attracting all sorts of young people in large groups and of course there is no management or supervision of the difficulties the football pitch and skate park is bringing to the surrounding area. As you know for last two consecutive Sunday evenings we've had to call 99 due to rival gangs of youths fighting over the football pitch (25 to 30) youths who were believed to have come from the Market St Football Pitch, as Islington Police also attended this incident. Given it's right on our doorstep it is very frightening especially as they were armed with metal bars and sticks. Again this is something that has to be addressed from a parks and youth work perspective. There is no visibility of any responsible or supervising adults at the park at these times when it is open and attracting these difficulties.

Not sure what you as the Police can do about it but thought you should know. We'll definitely try and take this up with the Camden Council demand resources to deal with the problems they have created in trying to give youth some good activities, which we support, but also believe they need to manage the overspill and additional dynamics building the skate park and football pitch has created. Perhaps this might also be useful for the environmental survey on 14th which I will try and attend also.

In addition we've also had drug dealing over the weekend on Saturday morning, which I believe Andrew has already reported to you. ON Thursday morning at 3.0 am there was an argument taking place in the motorbike parking space. This appeared to be drug related, but did become quite hostile and according to my neighbour Tony Hooper looked like serious characters. I'm also hoping that Mary Santi will report to you the drug dealing on the 29 Bus that she observed.

Many Thanks

Annie

11th April 2008 – Local Councillor re Drug Dealing

RE : MEETING LAST NIGHT.....

From: Rawlings, Ben (Councillor)
Sent: 11 April 2008 13:53:31
To:

Cc:)

Dear Mr Deans,

I hope your meeting last night went well. I've spoken briefly with the Safer Neighbourhoods Sergeant about drug dealing in the area, and she tells me that the centre of the problem is on Camden Mews. They have been patrolling the area regularly and have carried out a number of stop and searches. They have requested extra resources to tackle the problem, and we have had extra resources in this area and across Camden generally for some time to support the local teams work tackling burglary and drug dealing. Sgt Saggarr also gave me a brief update on the burglary situation - a number of suspects have been caught and the number of burglaries is down from last year - there should be a fuller account at the CSNA meeting on the 21st.

If anything came out of your meeting that you think we should know about, or there were any ideas about how we could better tackle the problems, please do let me know.

Kind regards and best wishes for the weekend.

Ben

10th April 2008 – Email to community Police Kentish Town

Annie Mullins

To

CC

Catherine Hays Andrew Deans

10 Apr 2008

Hi there,

There was a meeting this evening 10th April of local concerned residents on Camden Mews and Camden Road to discuss the spate of burglaries and attempted break-ins that have been taking place recently, As you know my home 77 Camden Mews was actually broken into on 1st April. Whilst they

caught two of the burglars (who are now on bail and live locally) another two were not apprehended.

Given that there is also major increase in drug dealing near the Billiard Table (Canteloves Rd), this alongside the burglaries has led to an increased sense of fear and concern that the situation is deteriorating and getting significantly worse and that urgent action is required.

We would like to meet with you as a matter of urgency to discuss both security and policiing issues, as well potential solutions in the local area, would it be possible for you to meet either Mon, Tues or Weds next week.

Be most grateful if you could get back to me ASAP. I can also be contacted on my mobile [REDACTED]

Many thanks

Annie Mullins

2007 - Email from Police Sergeant Tania Coulling Community Police (Kentish Town) – Anti Social Behaviour 2007

--- wrote:

Andrew,

Thank you for your e-mail notifying us of the recent incidents of anti-social behaviour and criminal damage. I will research our systems to try and identify these youths. We are on late shifts all of next week so we will be targeting this area to deal with these youths. Could we contact you to get some more information such as ages, clothing descriptions that sort of thing, it could be done over the phone if more convenient.

Again thank you for informing us.

Sergeant Tania Coulling

Canteloves Ward Safer Neighbourhoods Team (99 Kentish Town Road (NOT a postal address))

T: 020 8721 2756
Mob:07717 451997
Fax: 020 7161 689358
E-mail:Cantelowes.SNT@met.police.uk
Mail & Dispatch to Kentish Town Police Station 12a
Holmes Road NW5 3AD

In accordance with the Freedom Of Information Act -

This e-mail is restricted and intended solely for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed. Any opinions contained in this message are those of the author and are not given or endorsed by the Metropolitan Police Service unless otherwise clearly indicated in this message and the authority of the author to so bind the Metropolitan Police Service entity referred to is duly verified.

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

From:]

Sent: 17 April 2007 17:41

To

Cc:

Subject: Recent Anti-Social Behaviour incidents involving SOMALI YOUTH

Subject : Recent Trouble with SOMALI YOUTH

Saturday 17 March 07

Trouble involving 4 -5 SOMALI (Black kids) late at night, sitting on the raised grass verge / low wall along Cantelowes Road, near the location of 75 Camden Mews. It is late evening. They are off their faces on DRINK or DRUGS. They attack people, harassing them as they pass along this passage and are shouting loudly amongst themselves. Incident REPORTED to the local KT POLICE, who turn up, question and caution them and allow them to leave.

Thursday 22 March 07

Trouble with a group of football SOMALI (Black kids They are finishing a football game in Cantelowes Gardens MUGA pitch. One of them is being jeered by his mates on the opposite side of Camden Road. Suddenly without provocation he takes out a claw hammer and begins to violently smash all the car windows, as the car is parked outside 218 Camden Road. It is approx 8pm. His friends opposite shout out loudly encouraging him further until he finally runs off ip Camden Road, then down the DARK un-lit passage that it Pandian Way and into the North Point Development. The car owner comes out of

218, gets into the car and drives it off immediately down towards Camden Town. Incident REPORTED to the POLICE who turn up and ask witnesses various questions.

Saturday 24 March 07

A group of 7 SOMALI (Black kids) with a large white dog are sitting on the steps of 224 Camden Road in front of the black doors shouting and being abusive. A neighbour Beryl from 224B informs them that this is a private property and moves them on.

**2nd November 2006 – Email From Highways Management
Camden Council re Billiard Table used as building site**

From: Foxtan, Brian

Sent: 02 November 2006 12:53

To:

Cc:

Subject: RE: Placement of Portacabins / Containers in Canteloves Road

Importance: High

Dear Ms Hays

Thank you for email regarding the above matter. I am sorry for the delay in my response.

I met, on site, with Squires builders this morning to discuss the works they are undertaking and the impact these will have on the area. However they are required to provide welfare facilities for their operatives and, at present, they cannot do so from inside the premises. It is expected that in due course they will provide an area inside. After they have completed the reconstruction of the new floors, they will look to providing this.

Meanwhile, I have agreed that the temporary portaloo will be positioned outside 56 Camden Mews, to the left of the premises as you face it. The portaloo will be fenced off to restrict access for anyone other than those persons allowed to use it. It will be licenced by the Highway Management Team, and an application pack has been provided to Squires for completion. I have requested that the portaloo is resisted as soon as possible in order to resolve concerns regarding its present placement.

Please note that the agreed position does clearly benefit the operatives in the premises from a practical point of view. There will be no necessity for them to walk 20/30 metres to use the facilities.

I am conscious, however, that wherever this is placed, it will cause "inconvenience" to someone, but being outside of the premises on which the works is being carried out is clearly preferable to any other location. You will appreciate, I am sure, that we need to balance the requirements of the builders with those of the residents in the area.

yours faithfully

Brian Foxtton
Network Co-ordinator
Highways Management
London Borough of Camden
Town Hall Extension
Argyle Street
London
WC1H 8EQ

Tel. No 020 7974 2410
Fax No. 020 7974 5585

Email From Catherine Hays Chair of Camden Square Neighbourhood Association Re Portacabins

From:]

Sent: 30 October 2006 22:36

To:

Cc:

Subject: Re: Placement of Portacabins / Containers in Canteloves Road

Dear All

I am writing to you as Chair of the Camden Square Neighbourhood Association in regard to the porto-loo on Canteloves Road and Camden Mews outside Annie Mullin's house by the open green space commonly referred to as the 'billiards table'.

As you know, this is the 3rd porto-loo placed at this location in the last 12 months. This is also a **Hot Spot** for crime and other disturbances as Annie has detailed. I have copied in Sgt Dave Palfrey into this email as he can testify to the serious problems with drug dealing that takes place there - a porto-loo adds to the feeling that things are out of control and thus, the crime, fly tipping, etc. And, this does not help our efforts to regenerate the area.

I have also copied in Martin Reading of the Council in charge of all pavements - he can tell you how approx 20 pieces of yorkstone were stolen from that same area the last time a porto-loo was there. You should all know that there

is no money in the budget to replace stolen yorkstone so we have to live with this tragic loss and we don't want any more to be stolen!

Today, a resident architect and member of our local CAAC (Conservation Area Advisory Committee) inspected the site. The porto-loo is for the crew working in Camden Mews on a double fronted house. Also, they have a skip in the front of the site - there is room for both the skip and a porto-loo. I am sure the residents are not happy about a loo being in the mews but, that is what we all have to deal with from time to time. However, Annie Mullins and the other residents in her immediate area, as well as the hundreds who walk by on their way to Camden Road, should not have to deal with a porto-loo and the associated problems for over a year!

It is far **less obtrusive** to place the porto-loo in front of the construction site than in the middle of Canteloves Road - this is in keeping with **standard building practice**.

Our resident architect suggested that the loo be placed next to the skip (remember there is room as this is a double fronted house) and the door of the loo should face in towards the house. I believe that the builder agreed with this suggestion. Remember, this is a temporary measure but, loos have been a permanent fixture for Annie, her immediate neighbours and passers-bys who use that route for over a year.

So, everyone - do you agree?

Yours sincerely,
Catherine Hays
Chair
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association

7th October 2005 Email from Catherine Hays Chair of Camden Square Neighborhood Association to Camden Council

From: ▪ **Sent:** 07 October 2009 13:36 ▪ **To** ▪ **Cc:** ; ▪ **Subject:** Billard Table consultation

Dear Emma,

The Camden Square Neighbourhood Association met Monday night; one topic discussed was the Billiard Table and the recent consultation the council conducted. We overwhelmingly endorsed the findings of the residents gathered at the public consultation meeting as follows:

- 1) the york stone pavement and mature trees on the verge are to be preserved
- 2) barriers are to be installed at the other end of the walkways to control the speed of cycles
- 3) owners of the broken down wall must be pressed to rebuild and restore their brick wall
- 4) brick walls surrounding the verge need to be secured to curtail nuisance problems at night

Everybody at our neighbourhood association meeting expressed admiration for the very comprehensive consultation you have conducted. We look forward to your detailed proposal to carry out the wishes of the residents. Thank you!

Best regards,
Catherine (Hays)
Camden Square Neighbourhood Association

--Or

27th April – email from Highways Management Officer Camden Council

--Original Message-----

From: Foxtton, Brian

Sent: 27 April 2005 10:18

To:

Cc:

Subject: Compound/Site Accomodation at Cantelows Road

Importance: High

Dear Ms Hays

Thank you for your email reagrding the above site.

TH Kenyons are undertaking works on behalf of Camden Housing within the vicinity of Cantelows Road/Camden Mews. Within the contract the Housing Team drew up with Kenyon they are not obliged to provide any facilities within the Borough to enable their contractors to undertake the works. In order to comply with the current CDM Regulations which stipulate the requirements to provide welfare facilities, Kenyons approached the Highways Management Team, a number of months ago, to assist in the establishment of a location to place a temporary site, albeit for approximately one year, to enable them to fulfil their obligations..I undertook a number of site visits over this period, looking at potential sites within the vicinity, including the vacant land in St Augustine's Road, but without success, and it was eventually agreed that the above area could be used, as land had not been made available by Housing.

Kenyons submitted an application for the site area and this complied with all the conditions required for issue. The proposed site was visited by me and, after extensive discussions, it was agreed that the area would be appropriate for use. The application fulfilled all the criteria with regards to safety, occupation of the public highway and its proposed use.

However, I am aware that there are serious concerns, regarding this site, but I will seek to clarify the points which you raise.

For initial clarification, this site is not a major development site, it is a site welfare compound and office area, occupied as and when needed, by Kenyons. There is no intention to use the area to undertake work of any nature. I acknowledge the fact that works were seen to be taking place, but as explained on site, these were required to create shelving units within the storage facility. This is not expected to be common practice.

Other issues

The generator is only used as and when the site is occupied and whilst there is a level of noise associated with it, I have been assured by Kenyons that the type being used is one which is considered appropriate.

The temporary toilet is to be repositioned to reflect the privacy needed by both residents and the site users.

I do accept the concerns with regards to safety, both to users of the area and users of the public highway, this is being addressed with Kenyons and if it is ultimately decided that the site will remain, then action will be taken to ensure safe passage of pedestrians through the area, This will include provision of adequate lighting in those areas of concern.

I, with Mr D James of Kenyons, have been seeking an alternative site for the repositioning of the compound, and will continue to do so. I have further written to them explaining the councils position, and the potential that the current licence may be withdrawn. This will inevitably impact on the works which they are carrying out and I will be in further contact with the Housing Team to discuss this.

I have made several telephone calls to establish the owners of the land at the junction of St Augustines Road and Agar Grove, and have been informed that it is owned by Network Rail, however it has now been leased to a third party by Network Rail from May 2005 until May 2008, so at present, there will be no possibility of using this, so an alternative, as previously mentioned, will be sought.

As you are aware there is no obligation for any local authority to consult on the placement of temporary structures/containers/skips etc. on the public highway. The Highways Management Team receive a large amount of applications each year and it would be impractical to consult on every one of these as the paramount consideration is one of site safety.

That said, there are lessons to be learnt from this and we are currently in dialogue with Housing to assess whether improvements can be made when they issue contracts for major refurbishment works..

As previously mentioned, I have written to Kenyons informing them that their licence will now be for two months, during which time, they are required to find an alternative site, however I would point out that the site will remain at present, until such times as a final resolution is forthcoming.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

yours sincerely

Brian Foxton

Principal Technical Officer

Highways Management

London Borough of Camden

Tel: 020 7974 2410

Fax: 020 7974 5585

Mob: 07950 296044

Email: brian.foxton@camden.gov.uk

Web: www.camden.gov.uk

23rd April 2005 Billiard Table Compound

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

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 23 April 2005 15:13

To:

Cc:

Subject: Compound II, sequel to Compound I, the continuing saga

Dear Councillors:

RE: Compound II, sequel to Compound I, the continuing saga

Wasn't any lesson learnt from our little adventure with Compound I at the top of the Square Gardens 2 years ago? The builders' containers, loos and newly formed car park plunked down by open green space on the junction of Canteloves and Camden Mews with no respect to the environment or residents is a repeat of what happened 2 years ago.

I understand that the Council/Housing is under no obligation to consult with residents which may be very well and good but, why wasn't anyone informed or notified of this major 'development' which will be up for at least one year? If we had been notified, we would have told you the following:

- 1) this is a notorious drug dealing spot that has been identified by the new Safer Neighbourhood Police initiative as a priority problem. The addition of the compound in this area gives cover to the dealers and creates a messy, out of control environment which makes the area more vulnerable to crime.
- 2) this is a green open space that should be left as just that - a leafy green and pleasant spot for all to appreciate.
- 3) this is a densely residential area which is completely inappropriate for a development of this kind.

What is the procedure for Housing in these instances? I understand that 50 some odd homes are being worked on - why isn't the compound placed in one of the homes? If

that is not possible, then we suggest that Compound II be placed at the bottom of St. Augustine's Road which is not a green space and has few homes. Just up from the recycling bins across from the mechanics would be a better spot.

IF WE HAD BEEN NOTIFIED, ALL OF THIS ENERGY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN WASTED. BETTER TO DEVELOP A JOINED UP PROCEDURE TO PREVENT THIS KIND OF EVENT FROM HAPPENING IN FUTURE.

Why can't Housing contact Councillors before developing compounds? It's as easy as a few emails. It's joined up government and that's what we are looking for.

We want to see new procedures put into place that prevent this from happening again. Please keep us informed of what the Council plans to do and how to resolve the current unacceptable situation.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Catherine

21st April 2005 – Billiard Table Compound

21 Apr 2005

Hi Judith, Jerry and Dermott,

I am a local resident in the Canteloves Ward at 77 Camden Mews. I have already been in touch with Jerry who Catherine Hayes the Chair of the Local Residents Association suggested I contact and who I've copied into this communication.

As the Local Counsellors for the Canteloves ward you may be aware that the about 60 /70 houses are being refurbished in the local area. However, the chosen site for the 'Wet & Dry' Area for the workmen is right next to my home on the corner of Camden Mews and Canteloves Road. I am currently deeply distressed by the placement of the Cabins due to it 'crime inducing nature' noise pollution, disruption and lack of any notification or

consultation with local residents, particularly myself and my neighbour who are specifically affected.

The site has blocked my access to my home for which I need regular access for storage of my motor cycle.

The site contains a Chemical Portaloo and Electrical Generator all within 7 feet of my living room. I live with my sister who works in the Service Industry and returns home in the early hours of the morning. The blocking of this area has made it unsafe, and dangerous particularly for women.


Within the last 6 months the Council with help from your selves removed the Waste Recycling Bins that were placed in the same place as the current Work Cabins. Obviously, this followed a number of complaints from local residents due to the noise disruption caused due to the close proximity to our homes. This would seem to set a precedent that this area is not suitable for any public facilities, utilities, or works. I am concerned that this area will continue to be used on a continual basis for whatever the Council deems appropriate despite the history of disruption and disquiet among local residents.

I have set out my formal complaint in the attached file, which is much fuller and contains photographs to illustrate my points.

I am a longstanding Labour Party supporter and like yourselves am aware of the key Manifesto commitment to reducing fear and crime initiatives in our neighbourhoods. I have to say that I do not think that Camden Council as a Labour holding council has implemented this commitment in the management of this specific licence to this private contractor in the Canteloves Road.

I hope you will be able to help with this matter and will consider the issues I have raised. Ultimately, I would wish to see the Cabin site moved elsewhere to a more appropriate site, and in the mean time the use of an electric generator the noise of which is intolerable is made subject to a 'no-use' restriction.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

I can be contacted on 

Best wishes

Annie Mullins

To Camden Council Complaints Department

From: Ms Anne Mullins 77 Camden Mews Camden. NW1 9BU

21st April 2005

To whom it may concern,

In the last week two large '*workman / equipment cabins*' have been placed at the end of Cantelows Road as part of the refurbishment project of 60 houses (one assumes council houses)

These cabins are placed to the side of my home and have blocked the entrance to the double gates of my property and those of my opposite neighbour at 75 Camden Mews.

I write to formally complain about the placement and licensing of these cabins on a number of grounds and have been in touch with my local councillor, Jerry Harrison, about this matter. The basis of my complaint consists of the following:

1. Lack of notification

I was given no notice about the proposed placement of the cabins. I have now spoken to Mr Deryk James from a company called Kenyon's who stated that it was his responsibility to inform and notify local residents. However, he stated, and I quote "***he was a busy man and had forgotten to do this***". He did apologise I can only conclude that any notification or consultation is clearly a token gesture and considered entirely unimportant given the nonchalant response from this gentleman.

2. Blocking access to my property

Mr James from Kenyon's stated that he had looked over my gates and noted that I had '*garden decking*', and thus concluded that I did not need any vehicle access. In actual fact I have a motorcycle and do require access to my property on a regular basis.

3. Safety & Security for local residents

Vandalism is a major issue in the Cantelows area, and I have already had to call the Police on a number of occasions regarding the damage to my property. I have right of access to my property and do as stated above need to place my motorcycle within the confines of my property for protection.

The placement of the cabins and security of the site has already drawn local drug pushers who have been occupying and entering the site late at night - which has

been observed over the few days this cabins have been in situ (please see attached photographs of the poor securing of the site)

The placement of the cabins alongside the roadside and walkway between Camden Road and Canteloves Road has now been made unsafe and dangerous, particularly for women. My sister who is staying with me works in the Service Industry and returns home in the early hours of the morning. The cabin has blocked off visibility, leaving pedestrians having to walk up a narrow way and therefore vulnerable to attack, as it is impossible to see if anyone is lurking. Surely better consideration and placement of the cabins could have been made to take into account public safety? How will the Council address this issue?

My understanding is that the Canteloves area is a subject to a community safety initiative due to the acknowledged difficulties of vandalism and '*use and pushing*' of illegal drugs. This particular area being adjacent to Camden Road has already been acknowledged as an area of particular crime concern. Why has account not been taken of these issues in the granting of the licence and assessment of community needs for safety and crime reduction? Was the Safety Neighbourhood Officer Mr David Palfrey consulted or involved in the decision of the placement of the Cabins?

4. Council commitment

My understanding is that Camden Council has made a commitment to inform, consult and communicate with its residents, particularly in conservation areas. I would like an explanation as to how this could happen and what will be done to ensure that this

- a) does not happen in the future
- b) how the council now intend to address this situation.

Overall noise and disruption is above any tolerable levels in a residential area and is some measure must contravene the Human Rights Legislation for a right to privacy. What will Camden Council do to rectify this situation given it's commitment to '*noise reduction*' and '*improving air quality*'

Further to this I wish to request the relevant copies of policies and regulations relating to the issues outlined, particularly community and neighbourhood notification of any major works or changes to the environment, and the placement of such Cabins.

5. Noise Pollution

The proximity of the cabins to my property is a very short distance, approximately 5 to 7 feet. I have attached some photos from my living room to illustrate this. A Chemical Mobile Toilet (Portaloo) has been placed again within 7 feet of my living room. Today they have installed a generator next to the Portaloo that completely intrudes and is impossible to tolerate due to the noise level emitted – I would suggest that this without any exception constitutes '**noise pollution**'. In addition I understand the **licence has been granted for 1 year** –

this is a prolonged period and surely the disruption and noise pollution cannot be acceptable over such a time period?

6. Precedent

Recently (*in the last 6 months*) Camden Council removed recycling bins due to the same difficulty given the close proximity of residential homes and disruption caused. Clearly it was decided that the area on Canteloves Road is not an appropriate area for any public facilities, utilities or base for public works. Why given this decision has a licence been granted to locate these cabins in this space, given the previous complaints and concerns expressed by residents and the Council's subsequent action? Will this site be continued to be used as a base for public utilities and works needing to be carried out in the future?

7. Convenience

The granting of the licence to Kenyon's and placement of the Cabins is, as I understand for the refurbishment of houses in the local area. None of the refurbishment is related to the private residences where the cabins have now been located on this part of Canteloves Road. Why is this? Shouldn't the cabins and site be located close to where the works are being carried out and where residents will appreciate and understand the potential disruption caused, as it is for their benefit?

I understand from the Kenyon's representative that two other sites were considered and preferred over the current site next to my home.

- a. A site near St Augustine's Road where there is wasteland and some distance from close proximity from residential homes. However, the Council or the applicant was unable to determine who owned this site. Why couldn't more efforts have been taken to establish who owned this land and seek a more appropriate placement of the cabins?
- b. A second site of preference was a short distance away in land alongside Camden Square or within it - but nonetheless some considerable distance from any local residences? Why was this refused given it is much less disruptive to residents.

Overall, I am extremely distressed about the management and placement of this Work Site and will formally pursue the matter through my Local Councillors, MP, Public Debate and Press initiatives.

I believe the placement of the site has not been fully considered or assessed with regards to the needs of local residents with regard to 'noise pollution', safety and wellbeing and overall disruption. Finally, the licence for 1 year for the placement of this Worksite surely is not an acceptable timescale given the close proximity of our homes to this site?

I look forward to prompt and serious investigation of the issues I have raised in this formal complaint.

Yours sincerely

A Mullns

Photo's of Work Base Cabin Site

1. This picture is taken from my living room of the Cabins with Chemical Portaloo directly outside my gates – shows very close proximity to my living area



Living room
French Windows

Chemical Portaloo

2. This picture shows the placement of Generator next to Chemical Portaloo causing 'noise pollution' adjacent to my property causing 'noise pollution'.



Generator placed outside my home - 7 feet approx

Cabins blocking access to my property

This shows how the walk - way from Camden Road has been blocked and dangerous, particularly at night due to Cabins being placed close to pavement.



No visibility of corner

4. This picture shows the poor security and how those who commit vandalism and deal in drugs can access the site for their use



Gates of site
unsecured at night -
accessed by local
drug users and
people late at night.