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**From:** Clive Akass <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 17 August 2015 10:47  
**To:** McClue, Jonathan; Gracie, Ian  
**Subject:** Objection to Mortimer Estate cladding proposal 2015/4030/P

Dear Jonathan McClue and Ian Gracie

This is to register my objection to the proposed cladding of buildings on Mortimer Estate. My flat at 8 Hinchinbrook House is not going to be clad but I am concerned that the work on neighbouring buildings will destroy the look of the estate, particularly as on the evidence of similar work elsewhere the cladding is likely to deteriorate quickly and require repainting – work that will increase maintenance costs and could well fall foul of future cutbacks. The white surface is also likely to attract graffiti and make the whole place look shabby and run-down. You must know from experience elsewhere in the borough that this can have a ruinous effect on an estate as residents who care about their environment move out.

The aim of improving energy efficiency is laudable but I am not persuaded that this unsightly cladding is the best way of achieving it. The potential social cost, which could easily translate into future expense, should also be set against any perceived savings from choosing this cladding as opposed to less obtrusive insulation. The claim that the work will cut fuel bills may carry some weight with council tenants who do not have to pay for the work but it would not be cost effective for leaseholders even over the medium term, particular as judging by previous council projects the final bill is likely to far exceed the estimate.

I am also concerned that I learned of this project from neighbours, and that so far as I am aware I have received no warning from the council. I would have thought that you had a legal obligation to notify me as a neighbour, even though my property is not directly involved. In any case it should surely have been done as a courtesy.

Yours sincerely  
Clive Akass  
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