

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2015/4774/P	Bruce Saunders	21 Rousden Street	27/10/2015 21:53:50	SUPPRT	<p>I support this heritage-lead project, as it offers much-needed improvements to the Camden Lock Market site for local residents, such as easing congestion into the West Yard by creating two new entrances to the market, facilitating use of the Grand Union Canal towpath on weekends (current routed through the market and too congested to use on weekends) and improving the variety of retail and office/ studio spaces.</p> <p>Changing the perception of the market back to a local facility with production/ workshop spaces as well as tourist-oriented retail is an important step in ensuring this special and unique feature of Camden remains connected with its surrounding neighbourhood. Retaining a music venue is equally important, as Camden's music scene is continually threatened by the closure of local pubs, music venues and night clubs in favour of profit-yielding residential conversions. The opening up of the vaults below the Interchange Basin will further add to this local landmark.</p> <p>Accessibility improvements for wheelchair users are overdue, and will further enable locals of all ages and abilities to appreciate this space.</p> <p>Considering the detail proposals, most of the proposed new buildings and spaces are well-composed and the quality of the design is convincing. However, a few minor remarks may be made at this point. I think the lock-side facade of the new building is key in the composition of the proposals, and could have been composed more holistically. Regarding the new bridge across the basin, I think a twisted, shifted route could give the historic bridge a little bit more space, referring to and enhancing the informality and moments of surprise that characterise the markets.</p> <p>Loosing this unconventionality is in my view the biggest danger of any regeneration scheme in the area, but the well-judged and convincing proposals submitted in this application demonstrate a thorough understanding of the market and its unique spaces.</p>
