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Heritage Statement

Islamic Centre of England Listed Building Consent Application Ref: PP-05112757

Introduction:

This Application is for the construction of new railings to the front boundary to the forecourt of the Islamic Centre of England. The property is Grade II Listed. Listing no. (798-1) 1113102, dated 05/02/1991.

This Application is only for External Works and does not entail any works to the building fabric or structure, external or internal.

Contextual Assessment:

The line of the proposed railings runs along the southern boundary behind the pavement. There are 3no. mature London Plane trees behind this boundary on the applicant site. Each tree is set in a planter area bounded by a raised brick kerb

The Grade II Listed Building is situated to the north of the existing forecourt

Brief and Feasibility:

The Islamic Centre of England wishes to erect a boundary fence for security and to control pedestrian and vehicular access with lockable Gates, following the existing footfall and vehicular access: no new kerb drop is required. The forecourt is finished with concrete brick paviours which will be made good / reinstated after the works.

The requirement of security, control and safe access for the Community needs to be considered in the context of the Grade II original Palace Hall, which has had many uses in the past - a Dance Hall, a Bingo Hall, a Cinema as far as we know, and may outlast the current use as well. The Design considers the Listed Building separately from the current Islamic culture use.

The design is inspired by an English tradition rather than an Islamic although the repeated geometrical motif is of Islamic tradition as well. The pattern is a familiar motif in both cultures. The fabrication proposed consists of four "layers" of rails within each panel. The front and rear rods are 12mm thick with the two inner horizontal and vertical rods being 6mm thick. This gives the design a fluid appearance depending on the viewer's standpoint. The overall design is judged to be in keeping with the both the historic and the current use of the Grade II building.

Guidance and References:

The following policy guidance has been consulted: National Planning Policy Framework: Section 12

With reference to Camden's Local Area Requirements Section3: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas, we confirm:

- There is no affect on the Heritage Asset by this proposal either on the Building or the setting
- The Principles of the proposed works as stated above;
- The impact of this proposal will not change the significance of this Heritage Asset nor does it cause any harm.