

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2016/1536/P	Tracy Granger	74 Hadley st.	22/05/2016 13:27:58	SUPPLETTER	From applicant 74 Hadley st.

I would think the basic idea would be that a house is adaptable and flexible to enable a person to live there for their whole lives, so people don't have to move out of their houses as their needs change - surely this principle should be applied to existing houses where possible. Many close neighbours of mine on Hadley st have enjoyed the luxury of being able to change their houses to fit their needs.

If people have to move out of small terraced houses in Kentish Town because they have families/ work from home etc they will have to move practically out of London as nowhere is affordable - which means being disrupted from communities, social networks, jobs etc.
Do you think this is fair? With the housing shortage that Londoners are experiencing, I would think planners would go out of their way to help people be able to stay in their homes.

Intelligent and responsive planning has to take in considerations which are not based on some abstract notions of "character". I agree that interventions have to be beautiful and enhance the streetscape, but this can be done through good design and quality materials - the planners could condition these very carefully (as they do with a listed building), rather than having a blanket ban. I feel that they are wielding a very blunt tool to administer complex urban and social realities, without taking into account the needs of the residents at all.

My proposed extension doesn't affect the light, privacy or views of any of my neighbors. Its impact on the street would be minimal as it is set so far back from the front. And it would be less noticeable than the other roof extensions 2 doors away from mine... as it would be set back from the front by 14 ft. So it doesn't affect the roofline in the same way as others on the street.

And I notice that applications have been granted, where the extension was set way back from the front. So why not mine? One in particular :
Application Ref: 2016/1013/P / Flat 5 6 Regent's Park Road. Its not clear as to why RPR passes the "Camdens principles for roof extensions" criteria, where mine doesn't. This was in a conservation area. And Hadley street is not in a conservation area.

I really think that it would be more fair to homeowners if the planners could approve a certain type of extension for each street or area.. just like they do in the posh areas of London. So couldn't something beautiful be approved for these 3 houses ? Along with allowing the freedom to build when we want and can afford to do so? As I also think to have a rule where all homeowners in a row of houses, have to apply and build their extension at THE EXACT SAME TIME is unfair and discriminatory. What difference does it make if I do mine now and my neighbours do theirs 3-5 years later ? As long as its an approved style? How would that view be detrimental to the street? London's streets are filled with houses where some people have extensions and some do not.. just like on my street. And on my street, the extensions all look completely different.

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And there is one more thing I would like to bring up.

Last year an extension was approved by the Camden planners for the school behind our 3 houses at the end of Hadley st.. Holy Trinity and St. Silas Church of England Primary School, church built in 1849. A massive modern building now looks over our gardens affecting both our light, privacy and house value. The view from the end of the street that was so important to the planners is also affected in a negative way. The school was a beautiful, before.. but this style decision boggles the mind. Why was this allowed to be built? It in no way matches the beautiful school its attached to. Its an eyesore to be honest that I am forced to look at it every time I go into my garden.

But obviously the needs of the school were taken into account by the planners. The effect it had on us and the value of our homes was never considered.

But shouldn't our (homeowners) needs be taken into account as well?Just like that of the school's?

Lastly I do find it sad that my neighbours think that satisfying their own needs is the only thing that matters in "the life of our neighbourhood". Who cares about the needs of their close neighbours right? But hey, this is England... so not surprised at the small-minded selfish attitudes exhibited here.

That said, I do hope they will enjoy the creative way I will be painting my house this summer.

Tracy Granger
