

30 July 2010

Mr Charles Thuaire Development Control Planning Services London Borough of Camden Town Hall, Argyle Street London WC1H 8ND

By email to: env.devcon@camden.gov.uk

Dear Mr Thuaire

Planning Application 2010/2845/P Fairground Site, Vale of Health, London NW3 1AU

I am on the committee of the Vale of Health Society and live in the Vale of Health. I would like to present further evidence to support statements made in the letter sent to you by Ian Harrison, Chairman of the Vale of Health Society dated 21st July 2010, which registers the strong objections of the Vale of Health Society members to the above application.

I make two points in relation to the above application.

(i) I dispute that the present use of the site, or any part of it, falls within Use Class C3 "dwelling houses". The word "dwelling house" is not defined in the Order. Accordingly, it must be given its ordinary, everyday meaning. A caravan used as a dwelling is not a house still less a dwelling house. It remains a caravan. The suggested use of the site does not therefore fall into Class C3 of the Use Classes Order, but is a sui generis use as a caravan site.

The following definition of a dwelling house was taken from the Shelter website:

Your mobile home may be classed as a 'dwelling house' rather than a mobile home if it:

- has mains supplies of electricity, water and telephone, and
- is used as a permanent residence, and
- is static and cannot be moved, or
- is so large that it cannot be moved in one piece:

(<u>http://england.shelter.org.uk/get_advice/eviction/eviction_from_mobile_homes/mobile_h</u> omes - definitions)

It is our belief that very few, if any, of the caravans on the site since May 2000 have fulfilled and do fulfill the criteria described above.

(i) For the reasons set out in Ian Harrison's letter of 21st July, the Vale of Health Society does not accept that there is a single C3 use extending over the whole site. The Vale of Health's case is that the site is used as a staging post for travelling showmen. Alternatively, there are mixed uses over the site, namely that use and use for three residential caravans.

The photograph shown below was taken on 18th June 2000. It is available from http://www.bluesky-world.com/. Although it is difficult to see exactly what the objects in the photograph are, I suggest that none could be described as a dwelling house, as that word is commonly understood, and that, at most, three objects could feasibly fulfill the criteria given by Shelter.





I make the same comments in respect of the photograph below taken between 19/09/2002 and 30/5/2003 and available at getmapping.co.uk. The photograph below when compared with the photograph above, clearly shows that objects have been moved around or removed from site, indicating that they are not permanent fixtures on site. There are further photographs taken in the last 10 years that can be drawn upon for comparison to show many objects have been moved around and removed from site. Both aerial photographs show the applicant's site plan does not accurately show the site as it has been over the past 10 years.





44 Below are additional photographs showing the site continues to be used for fairground equipment. The photograph below was taken in January 2010 and shows Spencer House on the left and fairground equipment on the site.



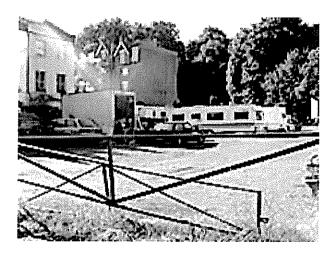
The photograph below was taken by me, D.A Griffiths in Jan 2010, and shows showman's vehicles parked as well as vans and cars and fairground equipment parked where caravans are parked today and indicated as permanent on site since May 2000 on the applicants site plan.



To the left of the photograph above, behind the yellow screen you can see the same piece of fairground equipment parked that you can see in the photograph below. The photograph below was probably taken in the summer of 2009. This can be deduced by the presence of the yellow truck that was present unblocking the drain at the top of the road at that time. Some of the buildings shown in the photograph below were painted in new colours no more than five years ago.



The photograph below is from the Camden New Journal dated 31st July 2008 showing trucks and cars parked, not caravans as indicated on the applicant's site plan.



We believe that accepting this application is inconsistent with the site's status as Metropolitan Open Land and could make it more difficult for Camden to resist future applications for residential development on the site.

For all of the above reasons we would like Camden to reject the application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for this site.

Yours sincerely



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