

Comments for Planning Application 16/06205/OBS

Application Summary

Application Number: 16/06205/OBS

Address: Various Locations In Hampstead, Kilburn, Chalk Farm, Kentish Town, Finchley Road And London NW1, NW3, NW5, NW6, NW8.

Proposal: Erection of pairs of poles with clear wire between the poles at 13 locations across the Borough forming part of the North Westminster 'ERUV' London Borough of Camden to form an Eruv boundary.

Case Officer: Sarah Whitnall

Customer Details

Name: Mr Benjamin Levine

Address: Flat 2 89 Fairfax Road London

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Interested Party

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I am a regular attendee of religious facilities in both Camden and Westminster, and I live in Camden, on the border with Westminster. The construction of the N. Westminster eruv would directly affect me. I set below my reasons in support of this application.

The construction of the eruv will have large benefits for those who observe Jewish Law. It will also have no effect on surrounding communities, based on the experiences in other areas e.g. Elstree/Borehamwood, Golders Green/Hendon, Edgware, Stanmore which still maintain an excellent diverse mix of peoples from all backgrounds.

Moreover, the construction of this eruv would allow those members of the Jewish faith to practice their religion with greater ease.

In particular, those with young children could more easily attend synagogue and interact with their local communities. Similarly, those wheelchair-bound members can also attend the social and communal functions at their local facilities on the Sabbath.

I support further development of communal and family life which is something that the construction of the eruv would enhance.

Crucially the eruv would mean that synagogues and other institutions can extend their activities to ALL people - equally - whilst still maintaining a set of laws and traditions that mean so much to their congregants.

At the recent committee meeting regarding the Brondesbury eruv (a part of which extends into Camden) concerns were raised and addressed about the number of poles, their locations and other 'street furniture'. It was decided that the benefits the eruv brought far outweighed any street furniture associated with it. It was clear that construction should go ahead and the same is true with this planning application. Even with the small amount of street furniture, the benefits to the community of Camden and the Jewish people within that community would be huge.

In addition, special care has been taken to minimise the visual impact of the poles. As is the case with other eruvs (e.g. Golders Green/Hendon), once the poles and wire are installed they are nearly invisible and blend in with other street furniture.

Therefore, I believe that this planning application should be approved

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Case Officer: Sarah Whitnall

Customer Details

Name: Mr Clive Beecham

Address: 4, Norfolk Road London

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Firstly let me state that I am Jewish.

I object to the Eruv as I believe the correct place for religion is either in a Place of Worship or at Home. I am very strongly against any outward signs of religion being brought on to the streets, as such. We live in a secular society and however unseen or innocuous an Eruv may be, it would represent a precedent and the start of a slippery slope towards other religions or ethnicities being allowed to display their outward symbols in the streets.

Please reject this application outright.

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Case Officer: Sarah Whitnall

Customer Details

Name: Mr Juan Lopez-Valcarcel

Address: 46 Townshend Road St Johns Wood London

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I was surprised to see this proposal even being considered. The limits to religious freedom are where religion is imposed on others. The erection across 13 locations of pairs of poles, no matter how small or how thin the wire might be is an abuse of common spaces for private purposes. In addition to creating a precedent for other cases and diminishing the visual enjoyment of the neighbourhood there are health and safety concerns for pedestrians, vehicles and wildlife. We firmly object. Also want to point out that the letter we received soliciting comments referenced the creation of an "ERUV" boundary. As this is a technical and religious term and the letter did not explain what it is, I do not think the neighbours have been properly informed to be able to raise their concerns about this application.

Whitnall, Sarah

From: North Planning Team: WCC [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 July 2016 08:59
To: Whitnall, Sarah
Subject: FW: Comments for Planning Application 16/06205/OBS

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 July 2016 22:08
To: North Planning Team: WCC
Subject: Comments for Planning Application 16/06205/OBS

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 10:08 PM on 15 Jul 2016 from Mr Adam Joseph.

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And London NW1, NW3, NW5, NW6, NW8.

Proposal: Erection of pairs of poles with clear wire
between the poles at 13 locations across
the London Borough of Camden comprising
the forming part of the North Westminster
"Eruv".

Case Officer: Sarah Whitnall
[REDACTED]

Customer Details

Name: Mr Adam Joseph
Email: [REDACTED]
Address: 26 St John's Wood Park London

Comments Details

**Commenter
Type:** Neighbour

Stance: Customer made comments in support of
the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments: I support this application. The reason why
is that this application will benefit some
residents materially (those who are
observant Jews but disabled or those with
young children needing a buggy etc) whilst
having next to no impact on other
residents. If you can find a way to make
life materially better for some without
really affecting others in my view it has to

be right to do it. Compared to the benefit all objections appear NIMBYist in the extreme. For reference it will be in my back yard and I will not personally benefit from this.