

**From:** joanna cooke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 August 2016 19:00  
**To:** TeampNI  
**Subject:** For the attention of James Bunten

Dear Mr. Bunten,

My name is Joanna Cooke and I live at 10 Laurier Road with my husband and 4 children (aged 3-9). I attended the council hearing of this case and was very pleased when Generator's application was turned down and I am writing now to urge you to turn down the appeal.

I am against the appeal proposals for the following reasons:

1. there is clearly a lot of demand for more and different leisure facilities within Dartmouth Park. 3 of my children attend Brookfield School which is about 100m from the site in question. I am a governor at Brookfield and only very recently we discussed the case in question at a school governor meeting and there was unanimous support for further leisure facilities. The outdoor facilities at Brookfield are insufficient for the children that the school accommodates and more facilities would help.
2. there are clearly leisure developers who would be interested in the site. A few local residents have already approached some leisure providers and there has been a hugely enthusiastic response. The site could offer all manner of physical activities and facilities.
3. the Council overwhelmingly rejected this planning application (I think that no Councillors actually voted in favour!) and local residents are overwhelmingly against this application. So to decide in favour of this this appeal against the clear wishes of local community would be wrong and send a very odd message to the local residents.
4. part of the reason for the Council's rejection was that Camden Council have a stated core strategy of Camden Council to support the retention and enhancement of existing community, leisure and cultural facilities. To allow this development would clearly be contrary to Camden's core strategy.
5. the local borough is short of public indoor leisure facilities - there are waiting lists at every local gym/indoor leisure club which is currently available to children. This site should be used for indoor sports and leisure rather than being lost for good to residential development.
6. in the UK there is an obesity crisis, especially amongst children which will only get worse if we do not act. The government are about to launch a childhood obesity strategy and clearly there is an opportunity here to develop leisure facilities which would encourage more activity, more exercise and would therefore lead to healthier lifestyles amongst the young people of Camden. Choosing instead to develop a large residential complex is wrong.
7. as a local resident, it is clear to me that the local area does not need a big residential development but it does need more community and leisure facilities. To allow this appeal would be a mistake and would not serve the local community.
8. at the recent council meeting someone told us all that the land is designated as 'an asset of community value'. This proposed development will allow a small number of people to make a large financial gain and will therefore not be prioritising serving the community.

In summary I hope you turn down the appeal and thereby ensure that this area of Camden benefits from greater, more diverse leisure facilities.

All the best and thank you for reading through this

Joanna

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