

From: [Louise Savage](#)
To: [TeampNI](#)
Subject: F.a.o Mr James Bunten
Date: 25 August 2016 21:14:58

Reference Number: APP/X5210/W/16/3153454

Site Address: Mansfield Bowling Club, Croftdown Road, Camden, London, NW5 1EP

I am against the appeal proposals for the following reasons:

1. My husband and I are local residents who have lived on York Rise for 2 years and hope to live here for many years to come. We have a 2 1/2 yr old daughter and are expecting our second child next month. Access to sports and leisure facilities as the children grow up is absolutely critical to their, and their contemporaries, health and wellbeing and is vital to the community. I believe that the reports that have been prepared to date have failed to demonstrate that the existing leisure facilities are no longer required. In such a densely populated area as the one in which we live there is always going to be a demand for alternative leisure facilities (particularly indoor facilities which number far far too few in the Capital) and that is certainly true for Dartmouth Park. In addition, I understand that the local schools are desperate for more sports facilities. Further, as far as I am aware, there was no engagement with the local community by the authors of the reports to ascertain what facilities were being demanded and as such the reports can only be found to be a misrepresentation of the reality of the situation.

2. I know we are not alone in our objection to the planning application in question which has been overwhelmingly rejected. To overturn the decision at this stage would be widely and deeply unpopular and given the lack of material differentiating factors since the initial application (as far as I am aware), without any basis. Further, it would contradict Camden Council's strategy to support the retention and enhancement of existing community, leisure and cultural facilities. Surely such strategy is in part to relieve the pressures on the Council and encouraging Dartmouth Park Residents CIC to make the most of the Mansfield Bowling Club would so relieve such pressures and further build the community (for which the area is known, unlike many other parts of London, and therefore made it especially attractive to young families like ours).

3. Our family's other big concern (besides the safeguarding of the community in which we are bringing up our children, a large part of which derives from the availability of leisure facilities), is school places. Having reviewed the catchment areas of our local schools across the last five years we have discovered that due to the high demand on primary school places there are at least 2 years in the last 5 in which we would not have got a place at any school in our local area. This is very worrying and further residential development in Dartmouth Park will only serve to make this much worse.

I trust you will give the above due consideration.

Kind Regards

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