

From: Dawn Verrall [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 November 2016 12:00
To: Constantinescu, Nora-Andreea
Subject: Planning application reference - 2016/5020/P

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Dear Nora,

Proposed roof terrace at 59 Oseney Crescent, planning application reference 2016/5020/P

I am a long term resident of the local area, having lived in Queens Crescent, Prince of Wales Road, Leighton Road, Leverton Street, and Caversham Road, and also on Islip Street (which was my longest residency) and now on Bartholomew Road. I have many years experience of living in Kentish Town in different capacities, both before children and now having three children grow up here.

I have also seen many many private developments pop up, taking up the little space left in Camden! Given that 30% of London has been paved over in the past 10 years, I think it is extremely important that the Council takes an amendment or improvement to an existing property very seriously. They take up limited space, if any, and simply adapt what is already there, fulfilling the need for families to remain where they live so they can continue maintaining their local networks and roots in the community.

Therefore, I would like to put my support of the above proposal on record. To enable families to make their home in the area for the long term, proposals like this, which are respectful of neighbours privacy and amenity, are designed to support local character, while improving the viability of a home for family living, must be approved.

In this case, the proposal is in accordance with Camden's Development Policies: creating outside space will enable the property to become a lifetime home, supporting the changing needs of a family's lifecycle including raising children. And so the proposal will help support mixed and inclusive communities. The terrace design is an enhancement of the use of the building, improving amenity for residents while the retention of the end of the roof means any visual impact for the surrounding houses would be minimal.

From my current home I look out onto the back gardens on Bartholomew Road, and Patshull road, and I can see 14 roof terraces, some have been there for years, while others including the terrace on this property have been approved and built in the last few years, and so this proposal is very much in character for the local area and I would like to see it approved. I can also state that in my experience, the roof terraces are used in a much more quiet fashion than that of the gardens surrounding me, where there is (understandably) more running around and playing. The roof terraces are used in a gentle calm way, with people sitting out and talking quietly from what I have observed.

Our family has had to move a few times in recent years, due to requiring more space, and this in itself is stressful, time consuming and extremely costly financially for our family. We are

extremely fortunate that we were able to move and still stay in the area. For many families here that privately rent or own (having worked extremely hard to reach the point of being able to afford any property in this area) it can be nigh on impossible to stay once they've had children, due to high living costs/rents/mortgages. As I have seen at my children's school and all around me, this is beginning to mean an exodus of certain groups of people as they search for somewhere more affordable with enough inside and some outside space. This in turn is severely affecting the local community's diversity, and this exodus will continue if carefully thought out extensions and developments are turned down.

I strongly feel that to decline this application would be effectively against everything that Camden council stands for in its planning and development framework document.

I would be most grateful if you would confirm you have received these comments and will take them into account,

Yours,

Dawn Verrall
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