

South Hampstead Synagogue redevelopment

Case no 2016/4989/P

Dear Sir,

I write with reference to the above application, for which conditional approval was granted in January 2016, subject to the satisfactory resolution of various outstanding matters.

I understand that these outstanding matters, especially those relating to the non-religious use of the building, have not been resolved and, moreover, that various material amendments have since been made to the scheme that will affect the new building's mass, appearance and use.

As a near neighbour of the synagogue and a parishioner of St Saviour's church, I wish to register my objects to these amendments on the following grounds:

- 1. The height and mass of the proposed building, both of which had been slightly reduced by way of concession in the previously approved scheme, have been increased in recent revisions to the design. This will further increase the visual dominance of the new structure relative to its immediate neighbourhood.
- 2. The scheme was only admissible in a Conservation Area because of the synagogue's exemption as a place of worship. Yet a substantial proportion of its space (accounting for much of its mass) will be dedicated to non-religious functions such as private social events.
- 3. There appear currently to be no clearly agreed restrictions on the permitted times of these events. In particular, there are no restrictions on the times at which the proposed exterior terrace can be used. Social events, especially those held outside, will cause a significant impact and loss of amenity on the synagogue's immediate neighbours.

Yours faithfully,

Timothy Schroder

Dr Timothy Schroder, FSA 32 Steele's Road, London, NW3 4RE

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