

[REDACTED]

From: Henry, Kate
Sent: 16 February 2017 10:34
To: Planning
Subject: FW: Cleveland Street Workhouse Site

Please log as objection to 2017/0414/P

Kate Henry
Senior Planning Officer

Telephone: 0207 974 2521



From: LH [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: 16 February 2017 10:11
To: Henry, Kate
Subject: Cleveland Street Workhouse Site

Dear Kate Henry,

I am writing to express my dismay at yet another planning application for the Cleveland Street Workhouse Site. After so many years of battling plans, why is it that developers are just allowed to ride roughshod over previous decisions? They cannot be allowed to just browbeat until they get their way. This site is an essential part of London's social and literary history. Our city is overrun with apartment blocks full of flats no Londoners can afford to buy (despite all the promises of "affordable housing", it never ever happens and we already have thousands of empty flats all around London that could be repurposed for that use if required). We absolutely do not need ANY more apartment blocks! We need to stop eroding our heritage and start caring about the people of London and their very important history. This is a site of significant historic interest and literary interest, why are we not celebrating those facts? It is not only a vitally important site revealing the history of London's poor and their medical history, but it is very likely the inspiration for the workhouse in Charles Dickens's *Oliver Twist*. As a historian, a Patron of the Charles Dickens Museum and a descendant of the man who wrote *Oliver Twist* I am asking for consideration that both applications to this site be refused. The workhouse absolutely should not be gutted to create impossibly expensive homes and the surrounding area should not be cleared for building as if it were any ordinary brownfield site.

Yours sincerely,

Lucinda Dickens Hawksley

www.lucindahawksley.com

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****My new book *The Writer Abroad* is being published by The British Library on 23 February.****