

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Consultees Addr:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2017/1889/P	Sherina and Lalit Tulsiani	Lower Ground Floor Flat Belsize Road NW6 4BH	19/05/2017 10:05:35	OBJLETTE R	<p>Dear Madam</p> <p>Reference: PLANNING APPLICATION 2017/1889/P</p> <p>Erection of part single storey part two storey rear extension to lower ground floor and ground floor flat and new cast iron railings to front boundary wall at 140 Lower Ground and Ground Floor Flats, Belsize Road, London, NW6 4BG by Mr Ian Hislop:</p> <p>We write in connection with the above planning application. We have examined the plans and we know the site well as owner and occupier of the flat directly next door to where the works are proposed. We wish to object strongly to the development at the rear of the property. With reference to 'South Hampstead Conservation Area, Character Appraisal and Management Strategy', February 2011, prepared by the Conservation & Urban Design Team at London Borough of Camden:</p> <p>Proposed Rear Extension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development proposed is overbearing in terms of height, width, and the depth to which it goes into the existing garden, as such, the amenity offered by the garden to all surrounding properties will be lost, and the height in particular will be overbearing for the neighbouring properties. The upper ground floor extension rear window will look directly into our private garden and block most light into our dining room and garden. • The open green spaces of the private rear gardens and the communal gardens between terraces of houses remain undeveloped and are a very important amenity for local residents - both for those who look onto the spaces and those who have access to them' (paragraph 3.3). Although it is not possible without access to the garden and knowledge of the dimensions of the proposed extension, which do not seem to be included in the plans, it is likely trees that overhang the garden, providing important green space and shields other gardens, maintaining residents privacy will require cutting back. • The plans do not provide clarity on the extent to which the development will protrude into the garden, (this information is key) however, it appears that foundations have already been dug suggesting that the majority of the garden is to be developed. Scaling the plans available suggest a less severe 3 metres of a garden would be developed, however that is more than 50% of the garden, leaving very little to offer the benefits that the green space add to the Conservation Area. • The 'undeveloped rear gardens and private open spaces are central to the character and appearance of South Hampstead Conservation Area and their preservation is of paramount importance' (paragraph 7.13/12.16) as such any permitted development should be sympathetic to the area. In my view this development is not sympathetic to the area as standing in my garden there are no ground floor extensions and all lower ground floor extensions take up a maximum of 50% of the width of the property where they are. • The development would conflict 'the serene character of the conservation area is further enhanced by lush green front gardens, mature trees, and the private open spaces behind houses which make a positive contribution and provide visual and practical amenity to many residents' (paragraph 5.4) • The two storey extension will dominate the surrounding gardens, in conflict with paragraph 12.10 'extensions and new dormers should be subordinate to the existing building and not detract from its character by becoming over dominant' and paragraph 12.17 stating

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					<p>'the attractive garden setting of the host building, neighbouring gardens and any private open spaces is not compromised by overly large extensions'. This extension is overly large at both the lower ground and ground floor levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The height of the proposed development will intrude into neighbouring gardens, which 'should not be compromised by overly large extensions' (paragraph 7.14) <p>With reference to Camden Planning Guidance, Design, CPG1, July 2015</p> <p>Proposed Rear Extension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraph 2.10 states that buildings should not 'significantly overshadow existing/proposed outdoor spaces' and that 'the extent to which developments may overlook the windows or private garden of another dwelling. There are a few small extensions to the rear of properties on Belsize Road but these do not overshadow the outdoor space or allow for overlooking into other private gardens, which the proposed development would. Paragraph 4.10 says that such developments should allow for the 'retention of a reasonable sized garden' which this proposal does not. The same paragraph also comments on the original design of the building, which would be damaged by the proposals, both at the front and the rear. The development should 'respect and preserve the original design and proportions of the building, including its architectural period and style'. The development proposed at both the front and the back are not in keeping with the late 1800's architecture. <p>General Comments on Planning Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plans suggest that the Lower Ground and Ground Floor Flats are currently two separate units, however, prior to the current owner, the property was one unit occupied by one individual, it is not clear if the proposal is to split the unit into two flats, which in itself will add pressures in the area such as parking, etc. There will also be an additional noise disturbance to neighbouring flats with two families living in the space that one family used to occupy. This will mean noise pollution at all times of day for neighbouring flats rather than just for part of the day if beds and living accommodation are on two separate floors There has been no communication from the applicant regarding Party Wall issues in connection with the proposed works in line with the Party Walls etc. Acc 1996. There have been works going on inside the building since March 2017; whether these are permitted development we are not sure. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the plans with you as the Planning Officer for this case. If this application is to be decided by councillors, please take this as notice that we would like to be invited to the committee at which this application is expected to be decided. Please let us know as soon as possible the date of the meeting. <p>As we have indicated above, the proposed development is ill considered in the context of the two Council Documents which we have referred to and not in keeping with the desires of the Council for the area, particularly given the sensitivities of being in a Conservation Area. The proposals would have an adverse effect on those living above, beside and opposite the development as a result of loss of green space, potential loss of light, and loss of privacy in the rear gardens as the development will overlook existing garden walls.</p>

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Regards
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Lower Ground Floor Flat, 142 Belsize Road, London, NW6 4BH
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