

From: Slaney Devlin [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 September 2018 03:05
To: Planning [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: Planning applications 2018/2370/P and 2018/3090/P

I understand Samir is on holiday. Please could you ensure my objection below is considered.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Slaney Devlin [REDACTED]
Date: 3 September 2018 at 02:38:51 BST
To: Samir Benmbarek [REDACTED]
Subject: Planning applications 2018/2370/P and 2018/3090/P

Dear Samir,

I would like to object to the two non-material amendments relating to the Central Somers Town CIP/Plots 1 and 4.

Planning conditions were recommended for green and brown roofs in the original planning report to increase biodiversity and to offset some of the loss of green space (a reduction in private open space from 6,170sqm to 4,775sqm, most of it designated).

Since planning consent was awarded, we have seen successive applications to reduce the amount of planting at ground level. At Edith Neville School, I believe the grove of silver birch outside the children's entrance has now been lost. The fruit trees in what was to be an orchard appear to have gone (at one point they were put in planters, but I think even these have now been lost). There has been a significant increase in the amount of hard surfacing in the planned school grounds.

The current applications appear to be asking to do away with the green roofs on the grounds of cost and maintenance. This should have been thought about before planning and does not address the need to improve air quality, sustainability, flood risk and drainage, nature conservation and biodiversity. I cannot see any reports in the above application that address these issues and that show that getting rid of the green roofs on Plots 1 and 4 will provide an equally sustainable and biodiverse environment. I cannot see any plans to "enhance the planting areas at ground level" – these have been consistently downgraded since planning consent was gained. The importance of the green roofs was not primarily for the occupants of the building nor the general public, but to improve drainage, nature conservation and biodiversity. Unless there are to be additional green areas at ground level to compensate for that lost on the roof, these applications should be turned down.

Regards,

Slaney Devlin
Somers Town Neighbourhood Forum