From:

Sent: 21 September 2018 17:04

То:

Subject: Primrose Hill School - Teaching classroom barge

Dear Matthias,

As a practicing architect, on principal, I rarely object to other people's planning applications. However, we live immediately opposite Primrose Hill School's gate onto the canal. There has been continuous trouble from 'business users' and violent drunks with violent dogs on this stretch of the tow path for the last 2 years. And it is getting worse every day from morning until after 2am.

I like the idea that the school might add an extra dimension to their available classrooms with the new classroom barge.

However, in the Head Master's latest contribution to the school's blog release on 10th September he specifically states that he hopes to let the barge out to others for expeditions, groups and parties etc.... To quote:

When the barge has been established as our floating classroom we would like to use it as a way of bringing in some much needed additional funds for the school. Children's birthday parties, a meeting space for our local residents or even as a vessel to be used for trips to the local attractions – are but a few of the ideas we have for income......

.....The Pirate Castle is a local business along the canal and is in full support of our application. They are keen to help us maintain the barge and in return, if they get extra party bookings themselves we will let them use our vessel......

I must strongly object to the use of the barge for any commercial or 'business' use, and for any noisy events. It's bad enough having their 'bingbong' airport style loudspeaker announcements in their playground. The children's happy playground racket is fine, but added Party or disco row from the proposed barge would be totally unacceptable.

Bearing in mind that there are approximately 19 weeks - 133 days of school holidays plus approximately 33 term time weekends - 66 days, that means about 200 out of 365 days or over 54% of each year when they might be hoping to attract other uses.

Several of the Party business boats have very loud amplification and even the local passenger punt has singers on the bow who seem to think they are singing to Wembley Stadium. The Canal and River Trust seems to have very little practical ability to control noise so it really must be restricted in the planning application and controlled by your environmental nuisance people.

Please ensure that the use of the barge is strictly limited to classroom usage as described in the planning application by putting a specific restriction clause in any approval that you may be considering.