

Dear Matthias,

Primrose Hill Primary School's application for a 'floating classroom' is an admirable project and I would have no reason to object if the barge's sole use was as a 'classroom for educational purpose' as stated in the planning proposal. However, there now appears to be an intention or need for commercial use and under these circumstances, and for the following reasons, I have to object.

The application is light on detail and keeps changing - the size of the barge has changed, the siting has moved and there are no specifics on infrastructure - It's hard to get a firm handle on what is being applied for.

There is also no mention of commercial use in the proposal and as this changes the nature of this application - currently the applicant states 'it does not need to dispose of trade effluent or waste', this application would need to be revised to respond to the specifics involved with commercial use.

Hirings will have a negative impact on neighbours and raises questions about the barge's viability. They will bring extra noise and unwelcome stress on neighbours who already have to deal with the sporadic loud noise from some parked temporary barges and the sometimes rowdy tow path users.

Permanent mooring, if granted, can require a utility bollard or infrastructure for sewage, water & electricity. As this is a very narrow stretch of tow path I'd question where these would be put without causing obstruction to towpath users and a material change to the canal scenery. A permanent barge with consent for commercial use in an existing temporary mooring area, would be a substantive change to the traditional use of this part of the canal and could set a precedent for others to apply for the same.

I would also be concerned about the potential increase in cars, and resultant noise and pollution that hirings would bring to our already busy streets. The number of cars associated with the current hiring of the school has increased recently - there are after hours clubs daily from before 8 until 7/7.30 and on Sunday until 1.30pm. Extra cars on top of this would intensify an already unpleasant situation for residents and add to the antisocial car idling problem which neighbours are battling with daily.

In conclusion, I object to any commercial use, I could only be persuaded to support the application if there was a written agreement restricting the use to that of a 'classroom solely for educational purposes in normal school hours'.

Kindest regards,
Neighbour

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