

David Fowler
Principal Planning Officer
London Borough of Camden
5 Pancras Square
London N1C 4AG
David.Fowler@camden.gov.uk

21st December 2018

Dear Mr Fowler

Planning Application 2018/5774/P Highgate Newtown Community Centre

I am writing to object to the above planning application for Highgate Newtown Community Centre. The local community objected strongly to the previous scheme and these changes do not address the concerns of local residents. They actually make the situation worse.

The council is now proposing to have 30% more flats - 41 rather than 31 and the number of people crammed into such a small space is not acceptable. The density of population is significantly above that recommended and the Council should refuse this increase.

The revised plans will have an enormous impact on neighbouring properties, and are out of character with the local area. The scale and mass of the buildings are far too large and crammed in to such a small, enclosed 'deadend/cul de sac' site. Many of our neighbours will be overlooked, losing privacy and they will also lose light and sun into their homes and gardens.

There is no car park although the centre naturally attracts numerous visitors by car. With even more flats, there will be an increase in deliveries and the existing problems with traffic and parking will get worse in what is already a busy street when activities are on. There is nowhere for vehicles to turn so vehicles will have to reverse out on to the bus route causing danger to pedestrians and vehicles. This is of great concern owing to the number of children that use the facilities and nearby Brookfield school.

We will be losing more public play and open space and gardens for the community to use. We'll be left with just a small busy courtyard with cyclists and pedestrians all overshadowed by bulky five storey flats.

We are in a Conservation Area and I object to the inclusion of the People's Gospel Mission Hall in the plans. This hall is unique and its facilities are not being re-provided. It has provided services to the community for over a hundred years and must be preserved.

The scheme as proposed results in a reduction in community facilities and significant harm to the local residents amenity and can only reduce the quality of life for the existing community. I urge the Council to refuse this application.

Yours sincerely

