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**From:** Margot Daly [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 January 2019 15:00  
**To:** Gentet, Matthias  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** PHPS School Barge - New documents appended to application

Dear Matthias

I have recently been made aware that new documents have been added to the PHPS school barge application.

I would like to add the following comments:

-this whole application process and the local community communication has been far from best practice. Whilst steps have been taken to improve the situation, the local residents have been extremely patient with the often-changing factual details around the concept and practical execution of any such new, untested scheme.

-With that said in the new documents recently appended, specifically the User Management Plan (UMP), I would like to raise the following points:

-the rather loose language throughout the document such as "...we do not have any intention to..." OR "... [the barge will be] used for the purpose for at least 90% of the time..." provides a foundation for too many loopholes and opportunities to "game" any agreed system or rules that are to be put in place, if permission is granted.

In the UMP, I would encourage the elimination any vague language and have 'bright-line' rules established, and clearly set out, detailing specifically what is and isn't possible.

If changes are needed in the future then further applications may submitted to that effect and due process and consideration should ensure in the normal way.

To that end I want to also express my specific concerns that:

1)-the barge should not be allowed to be hired-out be that by local residents for local community meetings and/or canal trips or by other private entities or persons.

There are ample alternative facilities locally to serve such needs. I also am not confident that there is a clear understanding (or definition) of what constitutes "local community meetings" etc.

2)-the barge's use, if a license be granted at all, should be exclusively for educational purposes

-by the school,  
-during school hours,  
-not to be later than [6pm](#),  
-and only when school is in session.

The barge should not be in any way allowed to be used when school is not in session, ie it should be in use during holidays, summer or otherwise.

The barge should also not be allowed to morph into a means to generate additional revenue or be seen now, or in future, as a 'profit-centre' for the school.

This is simply not fair to the local residents whose homes abut the school and/or face it from across the canal.

In such circumstances, it is we residents who would have to contend with the additional noise and disruption simply because the school has developed a plan to generate funds and use a canal-moored vessel outside of the school's existing operating hours.

In economic terms this is regarded as a huge negative externality, the cost of which would be borne by the local residents alone. Such advantage taking is simply untenable.

I would encourage the Council to approach this barge concept and any permits and related rules under consideration with the highest level of discernment.

In that approach I would urge the Council to aim to exercise extreme cautious and conservatism when considering the practical and realistic knock-on effects such a new scheme will have.

Practical and realistic knock-on effects would include both those externalities that are currently foreseen and anticipated and those which at present are unknown and therefore cannot be foreseen.

Whilst not my personal area of expertise there also seems to be ample concern regarding safety. There have been vaguely expressed plans to allow autistic children, whom have been identified to have trouble being in a confined classroom space, to use the barge as an alternative educational venue. How a tightly confined vessel space could serve as an appropriate 'alternate solution', on the surface, again, seems rather vague and insufficiently thought through.

The safety of any persons (child or adult alike) using the proposed barge remains a general concern for many residents, myself included.

With kind regards,

Margot Daly  


