

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2019/0004/P	Giles Ellwood	04/03/2019 21:33:30	OBJLETTE R	<p>While I'm broadly in favour of the proposed development of no. 22 Tower Street, aspects of the planning application disturb me.</p> <p>Firstly I'm opposed to additional gates being introduced into the wall along Tower Court, for several reasons:</p> <p>The existing wall creates a long perspective, which will flow into the second part of Tower Court - shortly to be paved, and returned to its narrow width, as part of the Ambassadors development. This blank wall, with shady trees and plants above, forms part of the unique atmosphere of Tower Court, an obscure alley in the heart of the West End.</p> <p>I'm especially concerned about bicycle access via these gates, since cyclists will just ride into Tower Court, which has three blind corners and half a dozen house/flat entrances.</p> <p>The gates will have to be self-closing, and therefore noisy. My concern is that if the cafe uses the garden for seating in due course, these gates may become its public (extra BRC) access.</p> <p>The proposed rubbish bins (of which more later) also require access from these gates: if bins stand in Tower Court, even temporarily, people dump rubbish around them, as they did for years at the Earham Street end of the Court until the council intervened.</p> <p>In conclusion, might I suggest making a new gate (for access to the house) to the right of the existing gate, so it remains the sole entrance to the garden?</p> <p>My second objection concerns the proposed new bin store, behind the electric-plant hut. My house overlooks this area of the garden, so I'm keen the store has a roof - however I'm not convinced it's a very suitable place for bins at all. Smelly food waste from the new café might well be put there, bottles and glass too, with all the emptying noise. The only access to these bins will be via Tower Court (unless they're wheeled through BRC's entrance lobby): this will create obstacles and noisy disturbance for the residents at odd hours.</p> <p>Can I suggest instead these bins are located within the private parking area off Tower Street, next to the proposed bicycle parking and disabled bay there, for ease of access &amp; collection? What is the separate application for the former electric-plant shed there, could this become the bin store instead perhaps?</p> <p>I welcome the redevelopment of 22 Tower Street, after a long period of neglect, but not the idea of its garden becoming a semi-public space with additional access from Tower Court.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>Giles Ellwood 6 Tower Court WC2H 9NU</p>