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Objection to Brill Place Tower, planning application 2019/2475/P

The Somers Town Area Forum has already made clear its opposition to a 44% increase in the Tower's footprint with consequent reduction in the remaining green space, an associated loss of commercial/cafe ground floor space and an (as yet unknown) increase in noise and vibration from the sub-station.

In addition to these objections, there are more general grounds for opposing what is being presented as a minor modification to the original application but which in fact increases by almost half the amount of space it will take up.

The time to apply for the sub-station was with the original application three years ago. Why has it taken Camden so long to come clean on the further loss of green space?

This might not have been such a serious matter if the original 2016 application had not already pushed the boundaries of what is acceptable in terms of prudent planning practice to and beyond the limit. The scale of the Tower, its proximity to one of the two most important grade I listed structures in Camden and the consequent loss of open space was bad enough in its original form. Having been given an inch, Camden is now seeking to help itself to several yards. One bad decision should not give the Planning Department a free hand to make more.

This further application, therefore, raises questions over both the good faith of planning officers and the Council's record of brushing aside local opinion on a wide range of very large projects affecting Somers Town.

John Mason

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