

Application No:	Consultees Name:	Received:	Comment:	Response:
2019/3859/P	Ricci de Freitas	10/09/2019 10:10:47	COMMNT	<p>2019/3859/P 37 Tavistock Place - change of use to A1/Retail/Coffee shop</p> <p>I note with interest the intention to change the use of 37 Tavistock Place (formerly 11 Compton Street, until it merged with Tavistock Place in 1938). I would first like to fill in the gaps in the historical use of these premises, based on my personal research. For most of its life, No. 37 was a popular local pub, listed in the official street directories as 'Hunter's Arms' from 1841 to 1895, and in the 1882 and 1910 directories under the names of its respective proprietors, 'William Barnett, beer retailer' and 'Percy John Chandler, beer retailer'. It was still a pub in 1929-30, sporting the brewer's name, Mann, Crossman & Paulins, on its fascia sign (see photo in Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre collections). In 1947, the UK headquarters of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship (IPF) moved into the ground floor premises. IPF's work continues today under the auspices of The British Polio Fellowship, who have images of the shop on their web site, including one dated 1949, when they still occupied the premises. No. 37 was occupied by a travel agency until 1991, when an attempt to turn it into a pizza take-away and home delivery outlet was met with local opposition and refused consent. The shop at No. 37 was 'requisitioned' by the Generator (back-packers) Hostel more than 10 years ago, and used variably for storage and more recently as office accommodation.</p> <p>I was involved more recently in discussions with the Generator's management about the possibility of bringing these premises into the proposed use, which was broadly welcomed by residents and other stakeholders at the time, but nothing ever came of this. I therefore cautiously welcome the proposal to bring the premises back into A1/Retail use, albeit as a coffee shop (does the locality honestly need another coffee shop?), and I look forward to commenting on the applicant's proposed alterations to the shop front.</p>
