

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 September 2019 14:26
To: Peres Da Costa, David [REDACTED]
Subject: Hampstead Town Hall Centre 213 Haverstock Hill London NW3 4QP (2019/4217/P)

Dear Mr Peres Da Costa

Hampstead Town Hall Centre 213 Haverstock Hill London NW3 4QP (2019/4217/P)

Wac Arts on 21 August 2019 has applied for full planning permission to create a new café, relocate its car park and to modify some of its entrances to make them more accessible for those who are less mobile or wheelchair users. The University of The Third Age in London (U3AL), with a membership of over 1800, is based in The Town Hall. We have recently renewed our lease for 11 rooms until 2040. We work in close harmony with our landlords, Wac Arts, to improve not only the building itself but the range and the quality of facilities that are offered to the users of the building.

I am writing on behalf of U3AL's Executive Committee, the members of which are the trustees of the charity, to fully endorse this planning application.

The Executive Officers of U3AL have been invited from the early stages to be involved with this development plan. The new café, which is at the heart of this, will replace our existing one, which suffers from appalling acoustics and is too small and cramped. Wac Arts have listened closely to our requirements and have gone to considerable lengths to try to ensure the positive aspects of our present café will be replicated. These being home-cooked nourishing food at an affordable price served in a family atmosphere. As well as planning to overcoming the negative points, which have deterred a number of our members from using the facility. We now have two of our members on the catering and access planning committees, who are working with Wac Arts to establish an enhanced experience that our members will enjoy and appreciate.

The relocation of the disabled car park to the rear of the building should give easier access to the building, as well as making it easier to park. There will be close, easy entry into the building on the lower level where 9 of our 11 rooms are located.

Also, the new sloping paths from Belsize Avenue and access to lifts from the outside of the building will greatly help many of our members.

We hope, therefore, you, as the planning officer, and your committee will look favourably on this application, which ultimately would lead to improved facilities for our members.

Yours sincerely

Naomi Stuart

Chairman of U3AL