

Laura Hazelton

From: Oliver Chanarin [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 July 2021 10:03
To: Laura Hazelton
Cc: Nick Baxter; Elizabeth Beaumont; Jennifer Watson; Andrew Maughan; Henry Newman
Subject: 111 frognal / Support letter

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Beware – This email originated outside Camden Council and may be malicious Please take extra care with any links, attachments, requests to take action or for you to verify your password etc. Please note there have been reports of emails purporting to be about Covid 19 being used as cover for scams so extra vigilance is required.

Dear Ms Hazelton,

I am an artist who was born and grew up in Hampstead. I have a dear relationship to the area and appreciate the historic buildings that make up its very special fabric. As friends of Zoe and Merlin, River and Max I have visited their family home at 111 Frognal, which we know is grade two star listed, many times, over many birthdays and other celebrations (pre-pandemic) and to visit River after he was born too!

111 Frognal is at the very heart of this young family, who have loved and cared for their house since they bought it and moved in, in 2017.

We have been witness to their tireless and passionate efforts over the last four years to improve this grade two star listed building and to bring the building back to life.

Knowing the house well I can attest that it was structurally unstable, ugly and poorly converted in the 1960s. The house was falling apart, decaying and had some serious problems. The children who suffer greatly from allergies had eczema and reactions to damp and mould and spores in the house and it was infested with cockroaches and mites at one stage..mushrooms growing on the ceilings at another stage...sadly not of the edible type.

Zoe and Merlin have repaired the houses structural issues through the cellar repairs and spent years seeking to renovate the house with natural materials, reinstating more original and historic features and to remove damaging modern fabric and alterations made in the 1960s. We have seen many versions of plans which Zoe and Merlin have drawn and redrawn to present to you at various stages over the years, and we have watched the designs evolve with your guidance and through their extensive research into the history and morphology of the building. What has resulted are brilliant and sensitive designs which reinstate many lost features and yet sensitively extend and improve the living accommodation too and we fully support and are excited to see these designs built out.

As an artist I also find the art studio is a very exciting part of the proposals and is both sensitive and subtly tucked back at the rear of the garden whilst also being a sweet design which will bring this family much joy. Hampstead used to be a hub of artists and writers many of whom have left the area or been priced out and it is exciting to see this legacy continue albeit in a small way in the creation of a small art space for this artistic young family.

In short we believe all of the works proposed will vastly benefit the listed asset, will bring much charm and magic back to this house, improve its amenity as well as bringing it back in to use by this local family who will cherish it for years to come.

For the benefit of the listed building and this local family, we thus fully support all of Zoe and Merlins plans to renovate 111 Frognal from its current dilapidated and outmoded state to a more sensitive restoration of the historic fabric as well as bringing it up to date with the times as a modern family home.

We hope that officers note the passion and love behind these applications and will grant decisions soon for Zoe and Merlin, Max and River, who are in limbo and displaced and eagerly await to continue repairing their much loved house as soon as possible.

Please attach this letter of support to the comments section of the 1. variation of condition application, 2.the art studio, and 3. the listed building consent for the cellar repairs.

Kind Regards,

Oliver Chanarin

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