

Parnjit Singh

From: Adam Greenhalgh
Sent: 18 October 2021 12:29
To: Planning Planning
Subject: FW: 2021/3105/P - Highgate and Muswell Hill Eruv Committee

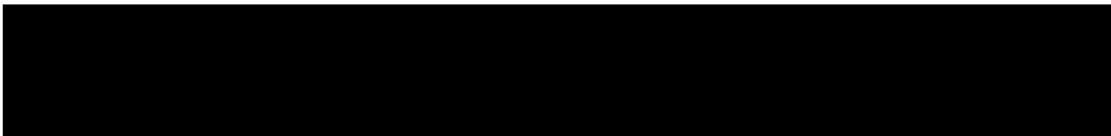


Adam Greenhalgh
Junior Planner



The majority of Council staff are continuing to work at home through remote, secure access to our systems. Where possible please communicate with us by telephone or email.

From: Duncan Gee [Redacted]
Sent: 18 October 2021 12:24
To: Adam Greenhalgh <Adam.Greenhalgh@camden.gov.uk>
Subject: 2021/3105/P - Highgate and Muswell Hill Eruv Committee



Dear Sirs

I am referring to the application of the Highgate and Muswell Hill Eruv Committee regarding the application no. 2021/105/P

I am in strong support of establishing an Eruv for the following reasons:

- The Eruv will allow wheelchair users of all ages, who keep the Sabbath, to leave their home on Friday evenings and Saturdays. That means that they would be finally able to pursue social, leisure and educational activities as well as synagogue services.
- For many wheelchair users living on their own, especially the elderly, this may be the highlight of their week as the Eruv will allow them to go out to other social and leisure functions without infringing their religious beliefs.
- The Eruv will enable both parents who wish to keep the Sabbath and have young children to leave their homes on Friday evenings and Saturday to attend synagogue for both prayers and social functions on Friday evenings and Saturday and including all their children.
- The Eruv will facilitate access for Sabbath observant visitors to local hospitals and care homes, such as the Whittington Hospital and to the Royal Free Hospital and will allow them to bring necessary supplies and visit with their young children and families, on Friday evenings and Saturdays.

- The Eruv will facilitate the community more actively to extend its communal and social activities equally to all its members whilst avoiding infringement of Sabbath laws. This would greatly enrich the life of the community, as the Sabbath day is when the largest attendance of members in Synagogue services occurs.
- The Eruv will allow fuller use of the existing social, religious and community facilities provided by the local synagogue and other activities by ALL members of the community, without exception, in accordance with traditional Jewish law and thereby encouraging expansion of the range of these community activities.
- Other established Eruvs, in Camden, Westminster, NW London, Woodside Park, Barnet, Edgware, Stanmore, Pinner, to name just a few, have already allowed higher levels of participation for young families including children in buggies and both their parents, as well as wheelchair users, in community activities -- be they social, leisure or religious.
- The Eruv will allow people to take with them at all times optional books, medication or other items they may need which are problematic where there is no eruv.
- The siting of the poles and wire in each location has been very carefully selected to minimise visual impact. Existing 'Eruvs' have shown that the poles and wire are virtually invisible once installed, merging as they do within the streetscape, and have to be positively pointed out in order to be noticed.
- Areas where an eruv has been installed have shown no change whatever in social cohesion, population trend or community relations – but have shown a huge benefit in the quality of life of those most concerned.
- Most of the areas surrounding Highgate and Muswell Hill already have Eruvs. This new Eruv therefore will not single out Highgate and Muswell Hill, but rather it will put our community on an equal footing with those around us, including for example Camden, Westminster, NW London, Woodside Park, Barnet, Edgware, Stanmore, Pinner.

Kind regards

Duncan Gee

82 Highgate West Hill

London N6 6LU



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