


Subject: Howitt Close



Hi

I agree with the objection to the development of Howitt Close.

It would destroy the architectural integrity of the building. Clearly it's designed to be the way it is and not to have extra stories stacked on top. It fits in quite a compact footprint and would look absurd with penthouses springing out from it.

Also there would be immense upheaval for residents and neighbours from the building works required, and over a prolonged period-maybe even years. In Howitt Road already there is non stop building work going on. The noise and disturbance has already caused a friend of mine to move sticks to Crouch End. Maybe others have been forced out that I don't know about. Certainly even from my flat in the next road I find the noise unbearable at times. God only knows how Howitt Road residents cope.

And all for what? What is the community benefit? What social purpose is served by the never ending upheavals and loss of quality of life? The strain on relationships and families? Answer: nothing. Nothing but the greed of rich developers trying to make profit from the misery of others less well off.

I had first hand experience of it at One Hyde Park. The whole of the area was thrown into chaos for years while rich developers built luxury flats for foreigners who wanted them as assets rather than homes. Traffic was brought to a standstill. Lorries blocking the roads. Ugly hoardings for as far as you could see. So the developers could get their cash and squirrel it away to off shore tax havens.

Well I'm firmly against this in Belsize Park. We are not so foolish here as to give up our right to quiet enjoyment of our modest homes without a fight.

Please do all you can to stop this plan for Howitt Road.
Michael Murphy.

