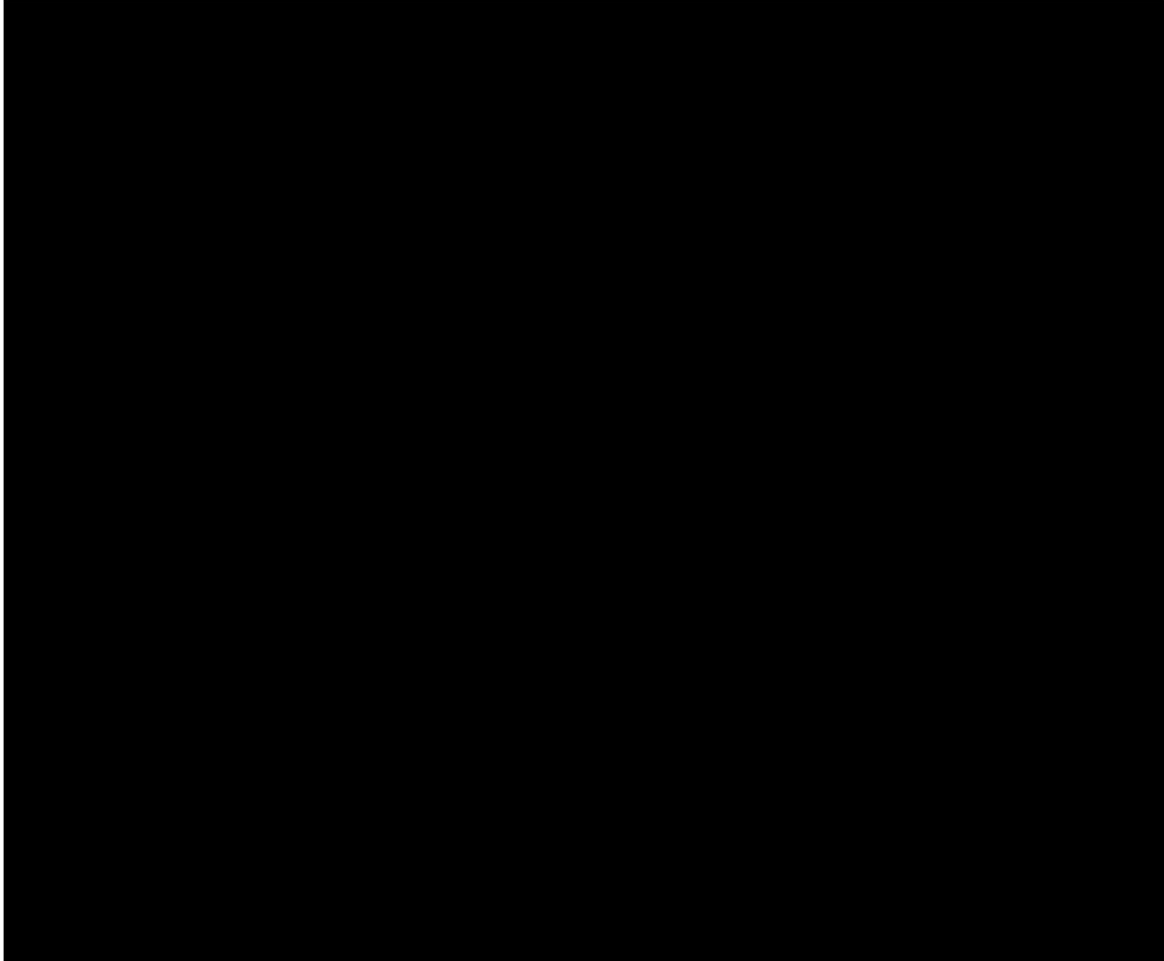


Rafi Miah



Dear Jennifer Walsh,

Ref: Planning reference 2022/1320/L and 2022/1041/P.

I am writing with reference to the proposed extension to the British Library.

My concern as someone who has a great admiration for the Grade 1 listed British Library with its iconic neighbour St Pancras Station, is the impact that the proposal will have on both buildings but not least the British Library.

Firstly its description as an Extension to the Library detracts from its true nature, which has 12% of its floor space for library use and 88% for commercial use. It is clear that the proposal is driven by commercial interest and whilst it is recognised that financial matters are of high importance, the value of the existing townscape does not appear to have been given at least equal weight in the equation.

That aside, the impact of the proposal on the north elevation of the original library will be devastating as would the loss of the Conservation Centre and the drum staircase. The north elevation of the British Library was considered by M J Long and Colin St. John Wilson to be the most important element in the completion stage of that building. The quality of the

existing building and the enjoyment of its users will also be impacted by the cliff face of offices in the proposed new extension.

In summary I believe that this is gross overdevelopment of the Library's site with an irreversible impact on what is one of the very few Grade 1 listed buildings of the late twentieth century and a landmark public building.

I therefore ask the Planning Committee to exercise its authority under the Planning Legislation to refuse Listed Building consent and Planning Permission.

Yours sincerely,

Revd John F Hillier, Dip Arch RIBA.

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