

Rafi Miah

Dear Planning,

I object to planning application 2021/6225/P, Maple House, WC1.

I have many areas of concern, the first being that the lights they intend to install may interfere with the birds that used to use the courtyard before Maple House started the strip out. I'm very concerned that in the documents lodged with the Council I don't see an ecology assessment. There were Black Redstart out there and they are on the RSPB's red list of Birds of Concern. Also the removal of their habitat has been done during bird nesting season, did anyone check for nests? It is a criminal offence to disturb a nesting bird. Has a study been done of the impact of the lights on birds? It must be ensured that all lights are suitable for birds and that they are switched off when nobody is using the courtyard.

The fact that they have a lighting plan in the first place worries me that they may be intending to use it for evening functions. Any small noise echoes to the flats as the area is all glass so even two people chatting out there sounds incredibly loud to us. It would be helpful if it was stated that they couldn't use it in the evenings and that alcohol couldn't be consumed out there. If you stand outside any pub you will hear how people's vocal volume unintentionally increases after having alcohol.

As far as I can see there's no information about how many people they may have out there at any one time, from a noise point of view I hope this would be limited.

Also the windows of our first floor flats are at the level of the garden. What is to stop people peering into homes as the builders they have working there now have been caught doing?

It's regrettable that Maple House did not inform residents of this application. They have our email address or they could have easily put notices in our foyer or letters through our doors.

Jo Hurford

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