
From: Sarah Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: 12 March 2023 13:57
To: Planning Planning
Subject: Objection to Application 2022/5198/P - 94 Mill Lane NW6 1NF
Attachments: 94 Mill Lane WhatsApp.png; Postmaster (1).png; BGP website - address.JPG; BGP window sign.jpg; BGP email no2.JPG; BGP email no1.JPG; Whatsapp undeliverable.JPG

Importance: High



Dear Mr Young

Objection to Application 2022/5198/P - 94 Mill Lane NW6 1NF

It has been brought to the attention of some of the residents in Broomsleigh and Ravenshaw Street, that the premises on the corner of Broomsleigh street which was the Glass shop for many decades, have been bought by someone calling themselves Building Guidance Partnership. The signs posted in the windows say closed for refurbishment - available for rent. However, no refurbishment has taken place at all and the premises have sat empty for many months even though we have enquired about renting the shop

Several of us have contacted the firm BGP (building guidance partnership) but had no response – see attached. I have called the landline but it goes to voicemail. I have called the mobile but it goes straight to voicemail, in fact the mobile number does not seem to have a WhatsApp account at all, unlike the instructions posted on the shop front; the messages don't deliver. I therefore tried to email BGP by going on their website <https://www.thebgp.co.uk/> - Again, no response – If you actually look at this website, it doesn't have much content, it certainly doesn't have any trade affiliations or industry qualifications. I work in development and construction, the fact that I had never heard of them piqued my interest, when I didn't get any response to my enquiries. I did however notice that GBP is registered at our local Post office on Mill Lane, it quickly became evident that the BGP is not in fact a developer or expert project manager as their very flimsy website might want you to believe, but in fact is the local Postmaster at 44 Mill Lane. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sunilradia/?originalSubdomain=uk>

I have tried to find any estate agent advertising the property too, there is nothing out there. I checked on Estates Gazette as well – nothing advertised. I am very concerned that they will claim there was no interest from prospective tenants, this is simply not true

I know of three companies who are really keen to find premises on Mill Lane, a dentist, a builder / architect and a baker. I would very much have liked to set up a studio and gallery in those premises myself, but I am beginning to suspect that the sole aim of acquiring the shop was to convert the use to residential, exactly as they did with the premises previously occupied by HSS hire at 104 Mill Lane only a few doors away. The previous owner of the building at 94 Mill Lane has said he knew all along that they never intended to keep it as commercial

The council being forced to allow 104 Mill Lane to become residential is really upsetting; it is a terrible and cheap conversion – an absolute eye-sore on the parade. I think all the neighbourhood should be made aware of these conversions. A conversion of this type is totally out of keeping and detrimental to our neighbourhood. Shops are the heart of any community especially for the elderly who may find that interacting with the local shops is most of their social engagement. On top of which we are constantly being pressured to dispose of our cars and shop local. How can we, when our shops are being turned in to flats for quick gains by developers, who use fake posters to claim that premises are being refurbished and available to rent. Losing premises like this is also detrimental to other retail outlets who will lose passing trade, everyone should be made aware of this damaging approach to make money out of our community assets.

I have written about this before to several councillors and to planning , please now take this as part of a formal objection.

Kind regards
Sarah

Sarah Wilson

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