

Wilden, Sarah: PC-Plan

From: Johnston, Alistair D K [alistair.johnston@kpmg.co.uk]
Sent: 01 September 2007 17:22
To: Wilden, Sarah: PC-Plan
Subject: Phene Arms - letter from A. Johnston - 4 Phene Street

Dear Mrs Wilden,

We heard, indirectly, that the approval for the redevelopment of Phene Arms has not gone through. We have today subsequently received a letter noting that the application has been "withdrawn" however we understand that this was on the basis that, in the circumstances, the applicants were told there was "no hope of success".

It is my understanding that, while the planning function in the RBKC approved the application, it was overturned by Councillors in view of the protests from "pub supporters". To be clear, the protest that was made against the redevelopment was indubitably made by people who were not mainly residents in the neighbourhood and were certainly not all regular users of the pub. Can I assume that protesters gave a clear indication of their address and their connection with the pub and was this considered in the decision process? Also, to be clear, this pub has not operated as a "traditional pub" over the recent years and there is simply no way that this will revert to being a "traditional pub" since that would never be economically viable. I therefore do not understand the basis for the rejection of the application.

If you refer to my previous correspondence on this matter, you will understand the very fact that local residents in the immediate vicinity of the pub were willing to support the redevelopment of the Phene Arms into residential use, thereby accepting some 2 years of disruption, serves as an indication of our despair at the lack of protection provided to the neighbourhood as regards the use of the pub. If the redevelopment is indeed not going ahead, we would wish to enter into discussion with the RBKC as to how the RBKC, the Police, the Environmental agencies, Noise and Nuisance, Councillors, Members of Parliament, and other responsible parties will fulfil their obligation to protect our neighbourhood going forward.

Could you please provide details of the basis of the rejection of the application which we supported and the names and contact addresses of those who rejected the application and details of all parties who we need to contact regarding protection of our rights as residents of the area.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.
Yours sincerely,
Alistair Johnston
Resident - 4 Phene Street

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