

PLANNING APPLICATION PUBLIC COMMENT

Application number: PP/17/00253
Site Address: 128A Lancaster Road, LONDON, W11 1QS
Proposal: Demolition of existing youth centre buildings (Class D1 use) and construction of mixed-use four storey building comprising library, replacement youth centre, external multi-use-games-area (MUGA) and education space (Class D1 use), together with associated hard and soft landscaping. (MAJOR APPLICATION)

Comment received: We object to the transfer of the Ladbroke Grove branch library to a new multipurpose building and site in Lancaster Road and the lease of the library building to the preparatory school next door.

The present, listed, branch library building is part of the physical and social heritage of the wider community of this country. From its beginning it was intended to reflect the importance of reading and literacy. The spaces in the library and the books and other reading material were meant to compliment each other.

Well-endowed buildings were part of the attraction of the illustrious public library movement that played such a pivotal role in the literacy and informal education of the public.

In the case of the Ladbroke Grove branch there are separate spaces for the children, visiting borrowers and browsers, and reading room users (combined with the IT facilities). These space provisions will not be duplicated in the new building around the corner.

The library building is a public landmark and it broadcasts space and facilities for the public to benefit from. It would be a contradiction of the inclusive public policies on education etc to turn the building (with its loaded history and heritage) into yet another acquisition for the exclusive education sector.

From our own observations, as local residents, it is clear that library users of current building generate few traffic and parking problems in the vicinity of the Ladbroke Grove/Lancaster Road junction. This is not the case with the preparatory school (or others like it in the Borough), which generates many school runs.

Sent by: Nicolas Holliman Siglinde Buhl
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Date of Comment: W10 5LL
17/02/2017 14:49:31

Comment type:

Objection