

To David Brockie
LB Hounslow
by email.

Contact; Denis Browne,
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ref BCC 726 dmb
June 9 2015

Dear David Brockie,

Brent Lea Issues.

I sent you an email dated June 5 2015 asking for your guidance on how the work to secure temporary school accommodation by September 2015 would be programmed and what timetable you were working to secure a permanent 2FE Primary school for Floreat.

You advised me that you would be considering these matters this Wednesday. As the BCC met last night I took the opportunity to raise this then and I have been asked to write to you following our meeting.

1. Temporary Accommodation.

After more than 2 hours debate the Planning Committee granted consent for the temporary accommodation, while recognising that even a temporary building which would be removed in 2017 would be better located on non MOL land.

I have already written to you asking if you have looked at certain alternative sites and the BCC has asked me to raise this question with you again, even though there is now a consent at Brent Lea.

The alternatives which occurred to the BCC included:

Max Factor. These offices are now empty. We have had discussions with Philipp Green and we understand that the intention is to start his development by re locating Waterman's on the Police site, and to follow with the redevelopment of the present Waterman and Max Factor building. It would appear likely that the Max Factor offices will remain empty for 2 years. Additionally it should be possible to modify The Max Factor part of the lower ground floor car park to separate it off so that it could be safely used as a wet weather playground. Children could also have access in Waterman's park as is done in the St Paul's C of E primary.

Acton Lodge. While this site was specifically rejected by the officers at the Planning committee we wonder whether the site is not big enough for the temporary buildings. Playgrounds would be provided by escorting the children across London Road to Bent Lea.

2. Siting the 2FE Primary School.

We noted that many of the members voting for the planning application indicated that they would not support the location of the permanent school on MOL at Brent Lea.

We understand that EFA is able to fund the acquisition of sites at current residential values. This opens up a number of possibilities, but as the procedures could take up a significant part of the time before September 2017 we would expect that they would want to make their selection quickly.

Brentford High Street. As Green London are now proposing to re-locate the Waterman's Arts Centre on the Police site at Half Acre it should be possible, with some adjustment to the outline consents, to build the school on the land released.

Reynard Mills. The BCC asked that the Reynard Mills site should be used for a school when the consultation on that site was being held. It was then thought that being next to other schools might be a disadvantage, but a 2FE Primary Free school would attract children with different needs and we think that part of that site should be considered again as a possible school site.

Isleworth Allotments. We have been advised that the Northumberland estate is clearing these allotments now for sale and that a specific use for the site has not been established in the emerging Local Plan. We hope this site will be considered.

We are very much aware that you have appreciated the wish of the BCC to support your efforts to maintain both open land and the school places which will both be needed as more flats are built. I hope these comments will lead to other proposals which could ensure that Brent Lea is returned to open space in 2017.

Two other matters of concern:

The BCC were also concerned about the site selection process which led to the Brent Lea application. We were aware of the list prepared in 2014 which did not include Brent Lea, and we wondered whether you subsequently prepared a list of alternative sites which did include Brent Lea. If so, would be kind enough to send me a copy.

These proposals including access and parking will have a direct impact on Brent Lea residents. Can you let me know what consultations are being arranged so that they can be sure their difficulties are minimalized?

Yours sincerely

Denis Browne
Chairman, Planning Consultative Committee
Members of the Planning Committee.

copies to
Ruth Cadbury MP
The Leader of the Council
Ward Members
Members of the Planning
Committee.
James O'Shaughnessy