

Argles James

From: Planning Support
Subject: FW: Comment Received from Public Access

Application Reference No. : HGY/2020/2762
Site Address: Land to rear of 10-12 Bidwell Gardens London N11 2AX
Comments by: Ian Brimble
From:
20 Bidwell Gardens
New Southgate
London
N11 2AX

Submission: Objection

Comments: I have just been shown by a neighbour who lives at 12 Bidwell Gardens a general letter from you notifying of a proposed planning application for the erection of a house to the rear of Bidwell Gardens. This letter is dated 5 November and my neighbour has only just received it. I live at no 20 and have not received a copy of this letter from you at all. If it had not been for my neighbour, I would have remained in ignorance. I see from Haringey's planning website that site investigations for this proposal began in August this year and yet Haringey has only just thought fit to inform a local resident. I think this is disgraceful.

As you will gather, we at 20 Bidwell Gardens are thoroughly opposed to this development. I am sure I also speak for all my neighbours in Bidwell Gardens who I am sure will make their views known to you. This is the second application for the building of a house on this ground, as you will see if you look at your records for April 2013. It was rejected then and it should be rejected again.

The Mayor's London Environment Strategy, 2018 aims for London to be the world's first National Park City, where more than half of its area is green, where the natural environment is protected, and where the network of green infrastructure is managed to benefit all Londoners (Chapter 5: Green Infrastructure). The other aims relate to air and noise quality, waste and carbon reduction, and resilience to weather and climate. The London Environment Strategy states that green infrastructure will become more and more vital. It notes that garden land has a role to play as part of the finer grain of street trees, private gardens and increasing number of green roofs and walls which in addition to the core network of green and open spaces, help to connect and extend the network. It also specifically recognises garden land as a component of green infrastructure, defined as: the network of parks, green spaces, gardens, woodlands, rivers and wetlands (as well as features such as street trees and green roofs) that is planned, designed and managed to Promote Healthier Living, Lessen the Impacts of Climate Change, Improve Air Quality and Water Quality, Encourage Walking and Cycling, Store Carbon, Improve Biodiversity and Ecological Resilience.

Bidwell Gardens and its environs is a haven for wildlife. Our houses face trees and parkland and on the one side are adjacent to allotments and a golf course. The immediate area is also fortunate to have a tract of open land which sits on top of a main railway line tunnel and which, because it cannot be built on, has become home to many species of native wildlife. In our garden, as well as the more usual garden birds, we enjoy regular visits from goldfinch, bullfinch, greater spotted woodpecker, green woodpecker and song thrush. In winter we are regularly visited by fieldfare and redwing. And all this is in London, only five minutes walk from a tube station. We appreciate that we are fortunate indeed to have this quality of life, and we wish to retain this environment for future generations of Londoners.

To sum up, we object for the following reasons:

That the application is against the spirit of The Mayor's London Environment Strategy of 2018

That the maintenance of a green environment is vital for London

That the proposed development will spoil the unity of our houses and will be highly visible to neighbours

That any such development could set a precedent which would be seriously detrimental to the area.

We are appalled that this rightly-rejected 2013 Application is seen to be valid for consideration again and that we have, to date, had no notification of it. We will be drawing this matter to the attention of our MP, Catherine West and to Mayor Sadiq Khan.