



Save West Hampstead "STOP THE BLOCKS!"



About Save West Hampstead "Stop the Blocks!"

Save West Hampstead "Stop the Blocks!" is a fast-growing group of West Hampstead residents, supported by many local residents' associations, outraged by the revelation of A2Dominion's plans to build four large blocks on the small site currently occupied by long-term local employer Travis Perkins at 156 West End Lane. So we decided to unite and organise a community campaign to fight the proposed development and vowed to STOP THE BLOCKS!

The proposals being imposed on local residents involve the short-sighted selling of valuable public land for a short-term, one-off payment. Further, the proposals aim to impose 200 units on a small 1.6 acre site that has never previously contained housing and which has existed as a builders yard for over 30 years. The proposals are an over-intensive over-development on the perimeter of the West End Green Conservation Area. Camden Council's own policies state:

"Due to the largely dense urban nature of Camden, the character or appearance of our conservation areas can also be affected by development which is outside of conservation areas, but visible from within them. This includes high or bulky buildings, which can have an impact on areas some distance away, as well as adjacent premises. The Council will therefore not permit development in locations outside conservation areas that it considers would cause harm to the character, appearance or setting of such an area." - 25.9 Camden Development Policies 2010

West Hampstead is currently experiencing unprecedented forced developments of 'luxury' housing blocks, some as high as 14 storeys, in an area noted for its 'village feel'. Until recently building heights in the area were limited to five storeys on the high street, dropping to three storeys on side streets. The impact on amenities by forcibly increasing the population are largely unknown and cannot be gauged until the current developments are completed and populated. However, there already exists a lack of school places, GPs and a nightmarish over-congestion of the pavements and stations during rush hours.

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