

From J Godfree
55 York Avenue
SW14 7LQ

Sunday, 29 May 2022

Objection to proposed plans for Stag Brewery site; App A Ref: 22/0900/OUT, App B ref: 22/0902/
FUL

The GLA and Mayor of London should be removed from having any control or influence whatsoever over the Mortlake Brewery Site. As an example why, look at what has been approved alongside the River Thames in the Battersea area (Battersea to Vauxhall)- the monstrous 'garden' of the ugliest concrete towers that has one ever seen. One glance at the the Consultation on the Stag Brewery shows their utter irresponsibility and monumental ignorance over the proposed wrecking of what could be a very excellent site for many small houses with gardens.

Or why not forget all about buildings? This 22 acre riverside site would make a wonderful natural reserve - with a rewilding emphasis - enabling locals and visitors to enjoy it and the river. Then forget about demolition chaos, construction dust and noise, infrastructure complexities, transport congestion all of which will last for years. Any flooding of the site would be much easier to manage than a bunch of buildings with infuriated residents (which most of us would have no desire for)

The local residents together with the Borough of Richmond upon Thames and no other authority should have any power of influence or interference, especially the GLA and the Mayor of London.

That being said, the council and the wrecking organisation (others call it 'developer') and The Mayor of London should be reminded that the significant matter is what the people who live here feel and think about it and what they would prefer to be done. It cannot be emphasised enough that the future use of this site is not, and must not, be about what the council or the owner organisation and especially the Mayor of London want to do. They must take note of all the comments from those that live here and act and adapt their actions to advance the wishes of the local people.

The scheme obviously bears no relationship to the "needs" of the borough.

Read the comments of objection submitted in response to the applications to wreck the site.

Who says we 'need' all these accommodation units? Who says we 'need' a school?

Has no 'official' who would make these statements, taken a look around this SW14 area of the borough and still not realised that it's FULL UP.

The people who live here know this.

The only reason for the proposed awful multi-storey blocks is so the organisation that splashed out its money is because it thought it would make a lot money - why else would they be interested, certainly not because 'they' desire to live here. It is typical, that one reason given for the height of the blocks east of Ship Lane is because there is already a building of the height to justify it - the listed maltings. Why should a building because it's listed and isn't scheduled for demolition be the marker for new multi-story blocks - it's just an excuse for cramming more height on any new buildings.

The only proposed buildings should be lots of small houses with small gardens as there used to be. There should be no multi-storey blocks on this site.

Much more to the point the site should be returned to a natural site, Mortlake Riverside Natural Reserve, relieving the area of all the proposed hassle and congestion with incomplete facilities.

The infrastructure (i.e. roads, railway,) of SW14 is fixed - it isn't enlargeable. Could someone explain this to the owner organisation and the council? What of all the other facilities water, foul and drainage water, electricity, gas for which considerable upheaval will be required.

SW14 is full up.

A really nice sensible thing to consider for the lovely expanse of the brewery site is to build a set of houses perhaps on the lines of the Dover House Estate - anyone had a look over there?

These would be houses that people should be able to afford - not so-called luxury - just ordinary houses perhaps even some terraced ones with small gardens. They should all be 'affordable housing' - why the differentiation - interference by GLA living in never-never land where one can cram in whatever the current fashion requires in this matter is unacceptable. This is SW14, it's FULL UP.

Is it really necessary trying to create a mini-Mortlake? That requires infrastructure which isn't available - space for infrastructure cannot be created where there is none; never mind other arguments COVID-19 has demonstrated the lunacy of cramming more people in a given space.

This site is not for the likes of the owner organisations and the GLA. They are cramming more people into a small area but the real interest is money.

The unbuilt-on-land should under no circumstances be encroached upon. It should under no circumstances be covered with artificial surfaces. If anything the land to the west of Ship Lane should be enlarged by removing all built structures to give a larger green space for the people who live here and wish to play games and enjoy leisure activities.

As for the cutting down of trees - it is an absolute "no". They are mature and provide some relief to the current pollution generators (i.e. engines and tyre particles) so why on earth should anyone even think about such a thing? Surely they all have TPOs, if the council has been doing its job?

There are eighteen mature trees lining the west side of Ship Lane - under no circumstances should these be touched.

Fancy even thinking about the demolition of the mature trees on the Lower Mortlake Rd approaching Chalkers Corner just to, in some traffic engineers' imagination, thereby being able to improve the traffic flow - stand there, and see just how much "flow" there is.

SW14 is full up.

I wonder how many more times this must be written, SW14 is FULL UP, before those who keep muttering on about more 'homes' (they're not 'homes' of course, they are houses, flats, apartments or accommodation units - builders do not build 'homes'!) must be built because there is such a shortage, actually listen. Simply cramming in accommodation units to suit some remote authority's plan (GLA) is the way to go about wrecking an area - in the case of SW14 and for the Mortlake Brewery Site this is unacceptable to those who live here.

No solution has been provided with respect to traffic flow. No solution has been provided with respect to railway movements. For the third year there is still no Hammersmith Bridge - disgraceful.

There is little mention of the massive disruption to the entire area if a large scale demolition followed by the large scale building activity is undertaken. It will doubtless be undertaken at the double because the owner organisation will be counting the cost, unless of course they ship demolition materials out and building materials in, via the river.

Since those making the running, in trying to get this presently awful scheme on the road by all kinds of "inducements", why, for example, is there no proposal for a marina and the use of modern technology to provide a fast river service down stream to London (without washing the river banks away).

Similarly if the railway is a bind then put the railway in a cut and cover tunnel (this has been suggested elsewhere) for its route from Barnes to Richmond, perhaps bringing it to the surface at Mortlake. This would remove the level crossings at Vine Rd., White Hart Lane, and Manor Rd. this would greatly relieve the congestion at Mortlake, if Mortlake were left on the surface. Quite an

operation but entirely doable. As matters stand the Mortlake crossing is busy for some periods - any of the proposed increase in people living on the brewery site would be totally unacceptable.

Whatever the result of this hopeless scheme as presented at this time those that believe that they have the power to make or take decisions should remember that the people that matter are the people that live here and not the “powers-that-be”, the council and the owner organisation and GLA and Mayor of London.

Do remember the 22 acre site Mortlake Natural Reserve would make a terrific riverside location for the flora, fauna and funga; and relaxation area for locals and visitors. It would make a contribution to reducing global warming.

It is suggested that “Back to the drawing board”, is sound advice at this stage in this matter.

If you’ve managed to read this far, thank you. SW14 is FULL UP.