

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 22/0902/FUL

Address: The Stag Brewery Lower Richmond Road Mortlake London SW14 7ET

Proposal: Erection of a three-storey building to provide a new secondary school with sixth form; sports pitch with floodlighting, external MUGA and play space; and associated external works including landscaping, car and cycle parking, new access routes and other associated works

Comments Made By

Name: Mrs. Kate Woodhouse

Address: 8 Richmond Park Road East Sheen London SW14 8JT

Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: The numbers do not support the need for a secondary school. When the school was proposed originally, nearly ten years ago, 2021 and 2022 were forecast as needing eight additional forms of entry. These dates have passed without problem, and numbers are now falling. Primary schools are undersubscribed and any new entries to secondary schools are more than matched by more students leaving them. The Education Committee has postponed a decision on the School Place Planning Strategy as the SPPS did not include forecasts of numbers of primary school places and the need for a new secondary school. Maybe the forecasts were not included as they could not underpin the need for either a new secondary school in Mortlake or radical change within the primary sector?

A new secondary school would be built on the protected OOLTI sports field, thus destroying much-needed green open space for Mortlake. The reprovisioning on the site does not in any way equate to the present field, there are small pockets dotted through the development, many of them hard surfaced. Recent years have demonstrated the importance of green open space, the pupils of Thomson House School need open space particularly as Mortlake Green will no longer be suitable once the development starts – not that it is now.

The proposed footprint of the school is far too small, why would anyone want to send their child to a school whose total area is just 30% of DfE guidelines?

The proposal to build a secondary school is both unjustified by numbers and destructive of green space. Please reject this application.