

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 22/3139/FUL

Address: Thames Young Mariners Base Riverside Drive Ham Richmond TW10 7RX

Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and construction of replacement buildings with associated residential accommodation, changing block, replacement staff accommodation and outdoor activity equipment including high ropes, climbing wall, coasteering course, supporting pontoons with associated hard and soft landscaping and parking.

Comments Made By

Name: Ms. Pamela Jayne Marum

Address: 73 Mallard Place Twickenham TW1 4SW

Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: I want to object to this application on the basis of noise. My wife and I attended the consultation event held at the Thames Mariners site on 30 April 2022. We were told that evening music events had never taken place at the site. This was despite us telling the staff present at the consultation event that we had heard loud music in the evening the past. We were also assured no such events would take place in the future. Yet on Friday 15 September 2023, around 9pm, I had to report very loud music (brass instruments and drums and crowd singing) coming from the site to the Council noise team. The Council noise team then visited the site. The music went on till after 11pm. The council will have a record of this noise and our complaint. We were told by the noise team that there were other complaints from Mallard Place about the noise from this event.

Before contacting the Council noise team, I tried to ring SOLD who manage the site on their out of hours telephone number 01372 378901. I was directed by a recorded message to send an email, or press key 3 if my call was "urgent". There was no answer when I pressed 3. I left a voicemail, but they have never returned my call. I then emailed them with my complaint and an audio and a video recording of the noise. Again I have had no response. One of the constructive points we made in our 17 May 2022 response to the consultation (copy attached) was that it would be helpful to have a contact number so that any complaints about noise could be quickly resolved. Out of curiosity, I tried to ring the out of hours "urgent matter" telephone number again at 5.52pm on 19 September 2023, as I was writing this objection. Again I was invited to leave a voicemail. I find this very worrying for a facility with responsibility for young people.

We tried to be supportive of the principal of outdoor pursuits when we attended the April 30 2022 consultation event, and in our 17 May 2022 response, but we no longer believe the assurances about noise that we were given at that event. We have to ask: why does an outdoor pursuits venue need to have such music which seems at odds with getting into the great outdoors?

We also complained on 8 September 2023 about children screaming during the day, having also raised this problem at the 30 April 2022 consultation event. On the day we complained, we were promised a return telephone call, but never received one. Our complaint was just ignored. There seems to be a lack of supervision of the children on many occasions.

Our concerns have not been allayed by the October 2022 noise report by ADT. We are critical of the report for the following reasons: -

1) The report is based on a 26 minute sound survey carried out between 12.06 and 12.34 on the 29 of September 2022 outside of the school holidays. It should also be noted the noise generated from children on that day was abnormally low, in my opinion. I noticed this when I saw that a survey was being carried out.

2) We observed the operative on the 29 September 2023 carrying out this survey from a position where the reading produced, in our opinion, would be completely understated/ inaccurate. The monitoring device was sheltered and muted from the main areas of noise generation, as can be seen from the attached Photo A . The readings were taken from behind the large, raised grass flood bank adorned with dense foliage some 3 meters above the ground. In addition, there is a large willow tree some 15m high sited immediately in front of the southern boundary of the play area.

To be continued on separate form submitted