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Mr Derek Tanner
Principal Planning Officer
Environmental Directorate, Planning
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
Civic Centre
44 York Street
Twickenham
TW1 3BZ

Dear Mr Tanner

Planning Application 07/2142/FUL
Linden Homes/Galliford Try Site, Sandy Lane, Teddington

Following my letter of 22nd May I am writing again – now that the new plan for the Sandy Lane site has been applied for – to express the views of The Friends of Bushy and Home Parks.

We continue to have very serious concerns over the extension to the new plan to develop the old Jewson and Electricity Board site on Sandy Lane. The new plans are totally unacceptable. The height increase to of part of the site to 6 stories would dominate the aspect from Bushy Park and would have a serious detrimental effect on the vista from all across that area of the park. The joining of Blocks B and C, although not facing the park directly would be seen from within the park when approaching the site from either side on the perimeter path.

Through policies ENV 1 and ENV 10 in LBRuT's Unitary Development Plan, there is a requirement for new buildings adjacent to historic parks and gardens 'to have minimum visual impact when viewed from them'. Through policies ENV 1 and ENV 10 in LBRuT's Unitary Development Plan, there is a requirement for new buildings adjacent to historic parks and gardens 'to have minimum visual impact when viewed from them'. As specifically recognised in the Plan, Bushy Park is Grade 1 listed by English Heritage. The development would fly in the face of Council policies and a stated aim of the Unitary Development Plan to 'protect the unique nature of Hampton Court Park and Bushy Park'. The proposal also fails against the spirit of policy ENV 4, which seeks to protect views and vistas. The open vista across the deer-park grassland, copses, plantations and lakes at this end of the Park merits such protection. The proposed buildings would be an eyesore clearly visible from anywhere west of Chestnut Avenue - that is from a major part of the whole of Bushy Park

The impact of the inhabitants from 238 houses and apartments on the park will be very serious. We live already in an overcrowded borough, and we must protect the environment of the park and its wildlife and ecology. The park is so important that The Royal Parks are applying for parts of it to be made into a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Last year It was awarded Green Flag status confirming the importance of the park which has to be protected as an extremely valuable part of the community.

We still maintain that although there is no legal requirement for the new developers to accept the promise we had from Linden Homes that once the original planning permission was given, that there would be no further development of the site, we feel that they should accept and abide by that promise on moral grounds.

It is essential that the vista of the park and its surroundings should be maintained and the views from our open spaces should be protected. Even the planting of new trees will not disguise this grossly inappropriate building.

We strongly oppose this new plan and we would urge you to reject it.

I should like to be kept informed of any meeting date where I would be able to explain our views further.

A copy of this letter is being sent to Vincent Cable MP, Remarkable (Linden Homes), and all the local councillors

Yours sincerely

Pieter Morpurgo