

Sandy Lane Site Action Group

"Standing up to the Developers"

RESIDENTS LAUNCH PETITION IN SITE PROTEST

Monday 25th June 2007

Hundreds of angry residents in Teddington and Hampton Wick have signed a petition in protest at controversial plans by Linden Homes to build extra flats on a nearby site.

Linden applied to Richmond Council last week to add an extra 40 apartments to the existing 198 planned on the former Seeboard/Jewson site at Sandy Lane.

Residents feel cheated after they only agreed to back Linden's original plans following a verbal undertaking in 2005 by the developer not to expand the project.

In the seven streets overlooked by the proposed apartments, 98% of those questioned signed the petition, which already has well over 500 names.

David Harnden, head of the Sandy Lane Site Action Group, said: "There is a wall of opposition to these plans. People have been betrayed by Linden, whose word clearly counts for nothing when extra profits are at stake.

"People living for miles around would be worse off if this new application went through. Local services would suffer, there'd be extra pressure on school places and the congestion/pollution in the area would only get worse."

The protest campaign by residents, led via their website www.slsag.org.uk, has the full backing of local MP Vincent Cable along with cross-party support from councillors.

All three local groups -- the Teddington Society, the Hampton Wick Association and the Friends of Bushy and Home Parks have also come against the plans.

"Everybody is against Linden on this. It's time they started listening to local people," said Harnden.

"They say in their blurb "We conduct our business in a responsible way and minimise the environmental impact." If that was true, they wouldn't be doing this.

"Linden have a misleading message about the new application. People in Teddington and Hampton Wick have a message of their own and it couldn't be clearer -- "Withdraw it."

ENDS

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