

23 rd November 2009

Ref: Your Letter of 19th Oct 2009

For the attention of Ms Sarah Jones. Planning Office LBRuT

Dear Ms Jones

Planning Application 09/0914 /FUL Twickenham Pool Site

We have in the attached documents prepared a point by point response to your letter of the 19th October and the attached report and comments from the Environmental Agency.

Nature and scope of the Application: We believe that the principle point that needs to be recognized, particularly by the EA perhaps, is the limited nature of the application that has been made. The area of Flood Zone 3a, on the Embankment is we believe, to all intents and purposes, unaffected by this application.

Secondly the Application is essentially for the hard and soft landscaping of the remaining, as yet un-improved, area of the Twickenham Pool site. It is seen as the first part of an incremental improvement for the whole immediate area

Thirdly it does not cover the entire T1 site as that area is better suited to redevelopment as suggested in the Nef Twickenham Town Centre report.

What is proposed is the retention of the Pool area within the larger area of redevelopment and change, the retention of the Pool area would not inhibit the development of a larger scheme covering remainder of the T1 area, i.e. the properties on King Street, the car park rear of Abbey National

However the implementation of this scheme would bring immediate public benefit and could be something that could be enjoyed by the residents of Twickenham whilst other redevelopment works are ongoing.

Changes to the proposals: Following your letter of the 19th October 2009 the Performance Arena, the surrounding low walls and the Future Facilities Building have been omitted from the scheme to open up the site. The Band Stand has also been relocated. **(A Revised Drg TRPP12 Rev G Dated 19/11/09 is attached).**

Additional Information: Also attached is a **Schedule of Planting and Materials**. A Detailed Management Plan is suggested as being subject to Condition. Detailed proposals for the existing buildings and the Public Toilets are proposed as a subsequent and separate application.

Planning Application 09/0914 /FUL TRTGG Scheme for Twickenham Riverside

Previous Planning History: We would wish to remind the Planning Authority that this scheme to reinstate a significant area of public open space on the Twickenham Riverside has had substantial public support from its inception in 2001, see **Planning Approval (01/0540/FUL and 01/0540/DD01 03/03/2003)**.

Elements of those original proposals were carried out by the Council in 2005 (03/1141/FUL and 05/0251/FUL) and renewed by the Council (09/1499/FUL in (3/09/09).

Public Consultation & Support for the Application:

1) Reference to the **on line Application for 09/0914/FUL** will reveal further the extent of the public support for this application. However it appears that some letters of recorded as of “objection” have confused this proposal with the Councils publicised developer housing proposal, which has not yet reached its planning stage. These responses are we believe incorrectly labelled as objections. It is estimated that there are in reality 116 support letters, with a petition of 112 signatures attached to one letter.

2) Additionally here is a **Petition now approaching 10,000** signatures calling for the return to public open space of the Swimming Pool Site, a copy of which has been handed in to 10 Downing Street.

3) Further evidence of support is available from the results of a **Referendum** carried out by Electoral Reform Services for the Community Groups delivered to 4,090 voters resulted in a turnout of 47.1%. For the Referendum Question Should public land on Twickenham Riverside is sold to a property company. The Result NO (93.5% of the valid vote) YES (6.5% of the valid vote)

4) A questionnaire was also completed during a public exhibition of community proposals exhibited Feb to June 2009. Out of 478 responses, 242 were in favour of TRTG proposals.

We are happy to meet and explain any further points in the near future.

Yours faithfully

Martin Stearman Architect RIBA, MRTPI. **Ronald Chappell** CEng F.I.Struct E. Chartered Structural Engineer.

Attached:-

- Response to Planning & EA documents
- Revised Drg TRPP12 Rev G Dated 19/11/09).
- Schedule of Planting & Materials (Outline)
- Sketch 1: Possible redevelopment of rear of King Street properties

CC:-The TRTG Committee. Richmond United Group. Save Our Riverside. Friends of Twickenham Riverside. Boris Johnson/ Mayor GLC. Vincent Cable MP. Richmond & Twickenham Times

Please reply to:-

Brown's Place Farm Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4QB & 37 Walpole Road Twickenham TW2 5SN

