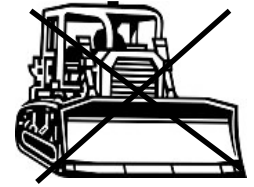




KEEP OSTERLEY GREEN!

For the protection of our green spaces & appropriate school development

Newsletter No.2, 3rd July 2015



Responding to the Nishkam School Planning Application Don't worry about the 21 days!

In our first Newsletter we said that **in the next 2-3 years, we could have up to four large, new schools in Osterley, built on green land for 4000 pupils:**

- The *Nishkam School* for 1400 pupils on the site of the old Conquest Club;
- One on the Grasshoppers site on MacFarlane Lane for 1400 pupils;
- Sky Academy, sponsored by BSkyB for 800 pupils;
- Another one between Wyevale Garden Centre and Wyke Green Golf Club.

If you have written already that's good but please remember that you can write again with additional points. We think you will find many such points in our next Newsletter.

was the letter received 8 days after it was dated but the Council only put the plans on its website on 30th June despite a statutory duty to do so from the start.

We have an assurance that letters will be accepted until at least the end of July and maybe beyond – we will keep you posted on that. There is no need to panic. We suggest that you write your letter, or an additional one when you get our next Newsletter with details of grounds for objection.

Planning Application submitted

The process is underway: Nishkam School Trust (NST) has submitted a planning application. A small number of residents were informed of this in a Planning Department letter dated 15th June but only received on 23rd June. If you didn't receive this letter there is a copy on our website *Submission* page.

You do not have to be a recipient of the consultation letter in order to respond.

The application documents are in Osterley Library, on our website and that of Hounslow Planning. There is a mass of documents in the package but the key ones are (1) The **Planning Statement**, (2) the **Sequential Analysis** of potential sites. These form the case for the "exceptional circumstances" for building on Metropolitan Open Land. We will show that these arguments are invalid in our next Newsletter.

We have an assurance

The "consultation" has so far been a farce. Not only

Remember that your objections will only have weight if they are based on clear planning grounds. See our next Newsletter.

First Step – sign our petition

Many residents have nominated themselves as street representatives so you will see a familiar face asking you for your signature. If you do not wish to sign simply say so and no offence will be taken.

Our forthcoming residents' petition will be a way of expressing residential opposition to the development. *The text is given on the reverse side so that you have time to consider it before we call.* There will be no pressure - we only want you to sign if you agree.

Nishkam School Trust has statements of support almost entirely from people who neither live in Osterley nor even in the borough but would like everyone think that this makes a done deal. Our feedback from residents gives a very different picture – most have never heard of Nishkam let alone the proposal to build a school!

Another school submission is imminent

STOP PRESS: we are informed that a planning application for another school - the "HIP" school - to be built on the current Grasshoppers site will be submitted in the coming weeks. This school will have as many, if not more, pupils than the Nishkam School.

There are, however, some key differences with the Nishkam application. First, the HIP school is

secondary only and therefore would generate less parental transport than Nishkam because it does not include a primary component.. Second, unlike Nishkam it is clearly aimed at satisfying the need for places in Brentford and Isleworth.

As to the specific issues of the HIP school we will have to wait until we see the submission.

Our petition – if you agree then get ready to sign it

We the undersigned wish to make clear our strong opposition to the proposal to build a school on the White Lodge (Conquest Club) site. This site is a part of London's important open space which the planning system at every level says should be protected and enhanced. Not only that but it is Metropolitan Open Land and therefore a part of London's Green Belt.

In addition, building a large school in an area of low density population, together with the current traffic density on Syon Lane in rush hours, coupled with the poor public transport connections and inadequate pedestrian footpaths make this proposal inappropriate. A new school of this size (1400 pupils + 170 staff) will generate significant additional car journeys and drop off parking at peak times, adding to the congestion and deteriorating road safety standards.

We reject the idea that this encroachment on to Hounslow (and London's) open space can be justified by “special circumstances”. Hounslow Council itself has identified more sustainable school sites in more suitable locations which, in addition, would not further diminishing total open space.

We hope and expect that Hounslow's Planning Committee will abide by the letter and spirit of its own guidelines on the protection of open space and also by those of the London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. Please, for the sake of the future of the environment, keep Osterley green.



We need your help

Our team is growing but we face many problems. One is the arrival of the holiday season. We need people to write letters, read documents, attend meetings, proof read

documents, offer specialist advice, whatever you can do.

If you can help in any way please contact us. Our details are at the bottom of this page.

Donations Needed

Printing, paper, stationery, website hosting etc all cost money.

We have a team who give up vast amounts of time to run the campaign for free.

Please help us to get the materials for the job.

You can donate when we bring the petition round or to the address at the bottom of the page.

Making your objections known to the right people

Our next Newsletter will give clear planning grounds for writing letters of objection to the Planning Department. There will still be time to do that. Before then it would be useful to let the people listed below know why you are concerned about the development (building on Metropolitan Open Land, traffic problems, lack of consultation, inappropriate location for a school - children would travel long distances, inadequate public transport, and whatever else concerns you). But if you are only going to write once then please save that for the next Newsletter which will give you all the details you need. Feel free to cc us with your letters.

Key contact list	Planning Ref: 01106/152/P3, System Ref: P/2015/2515
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