

[REDACTED]

Dear Mr Koorichh,

Re Proposal for new one form entry Hindi Primary School, on the proposed site on William Ellis Sports Ground, Camrose Avenue, Edgware, Middx HA8 6ES

I am a Governor of Stag Lane School, and Acting Vice-Chair. I have personally not received any letter but I understand from my Head that you are consulting on the above.

I would like to make the following comments.

As a local school which is likely to be affected by this new development, I would like to request an extension of the consultation process. We have no Chair, I understand a letter to Governors was only sent on 14 September with a deadline of little over a week, and our governing body has not had an opportunity to meet and respond. This means that you do not have a representative and fair consultation process in place. I am also concerned that other local interests have not been properly consulted.

Local schools are currently undersubscribed. The Council School Organisation Committee has predicted that this trend will continue.

In our experience, schools with surplus spaces suffer in the following ways-

- Difficulty in planning for the future as the budget is uncertain
- Lack of stability owing to employing temporary staff
- High mobility of pupils which has a detrimental impact on raising standards
- Strategic planning limited to managing turbulence
- Potential damage to quality and possible closure

The addition of your school will exacerbate this situation and as an inclusive school we feel that if there are negative effects, this will damage a school which offers high quality education with a focus on multi-cultural education, integration and the development of shared and community values.

I understand that you propose a one-form entry school. You also state your expectation that "demand will clearly outstrip available places." I am aware of Government proposals that state popular schools should be allowed to expand, and

that trust schools will be able to expand/change without reference to any consequences for anyone else. This adds to my concern about the negative impact. We have a number of schools near at hand and this will make place planning ineffective.

I am also concerned that any existing local school will not be able to compete in terms of 'marketing' against a new, well funded establishment and that the Harrow partnership concept will be under threat if we have schools with patently different levels of funding and ability to sell themselves, again particularly in an area of fluctuating roles and where we already have a number of schools.

I look forward to your response and trust that you will reconsider the consultation and the proposed site in the light of my comments.

Yours sincerely,

Heather Hewshaw

21/9/06

**PRIESTMEAD FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY AND
PRIESTMEAD MIDDLE SCHOOL**



10th October 2006

Consultation on new location of Voluntary Aided Hindu Primary School

Dear Dravit

This response to the new consultation should be read in conjunction with our response provided to the I-Foundation's original consultation emailed and posted to your colleague Nitesh Gor on 14th June 2006.

Governors from both Priestmead Schools' Governing Bodies have had a chance to discuss and comment upon the further consultation regarding the alternative location of proposed Hindu School. Governors felt that the period for this new consultation was extremely short and did not allow for proper consultation to take place. This point is now no longer valid as the consultation period has been extended; however, this extension was only communicated very close to the originally proposed deadline.

Governors still question why they are not being properly consulted on the whole issue of the need for this school and they felt it was already a "done deal" and that this was just a paperwork exercise to keep the local community satisfied. This was exemplified by the fact that not all Governing Bodies had received the revised consultation paperwork and that the online consultation email address did not work and was not valid. These points were of great concern to Governors.

Governors were very anxious about the proximity of the proposed new location to two nearby primary schools and a large secondary school. They were also very concerned about the amount of additional traffic that this proposal could be added to Comrose Avenue and the surrounding roads, as this is quite a busy area at the best of times, especially during the "rush hour". Governors were mainly concerned about the safety aspect of siting another school in this already congested area and would ask what measures will be implemented to ensure the safety of pupils attending these schools?

Governors presume that as the new school would draw its pupils from all across the borough, as well as from outside of Harrow, and that the majority of these pupils will be driven to school rather than walking or taking public transport. This is almost certainly going to cause a bottleneck in the road system around this area, especially at school start and finish time with particular concern about the additional congestion cause during the morning rush hour. This situation will be made worse due to the other existing schools being so close.

A number of the concerns raised in our original letter were expressed again. These included Governors querying what measures were to be put in place to stop the school from expanding and noted that with 50 children in the Nursery the school would actually need to be two form entry.

It was felt that there are currently more than enough school places in the borough and that most of the unique activities envisaged are readily available and accessible in Harrow. Governors felt that the proposed school will not add anything further to the provision already in place.

Some Governors felt that there was no need for another faith school and that its introduction was just dividing the community at a time when there should be more integration and when better community adhesion was needed.

Governors again queried why, when there were well over 2,500 spare First and Middle School spaces in the borough already, there was the need for another primary school? Governors were concerned that the new school was proposed to be built on sports/playing field land when there are areas of brownbelt land which could be better utilised. They thought that maybe an existing, under subscribed, LEA school would be better being closed down and used as the Hindu School provision rather than building a brand new school on valuable playing/sports fields.

Some Governors expressed a concern that the new school seems to be exclusively for Hindu whereas other faith schools, like St. John's, are more multi cultural and allow other faiths to apply. It was felt that St. John's has an approximate mix of 50/50 with a very wide range of cultures, including Hindus.

Governors noted that there is already pressure on High school places in Harrow and particularly in this area of Harrow. Governors stated that if the proposed Hindu school were to be a High School they would be less resistant to the idea of it being built, though still not on sports/playing fields. There was concern as to which existing High School would be attached to the Hindu school. How the allocation of High School places was going to be dealt with in the future was of key interest to Governors. It is presumably that the present system of linked schools would not be appropriate in their case. The whole system of High School place allocations would have to be changed to accommodate this school as otherwise the system would not be treating every child in the same way if their was a different system for the Hindu school,

Finally Governors asked me to note that recent events and news reports raised the question more keenly about whether another faith school would just deepen a divide in the community and will this be a route of more problems in Harrow in the future. Governors generally questioned why is there a need for the Hindu school, the majority believe that if you live and work in this country and adopt the way of life here then why would you not wish for your children to go a normal multicultural school here? Governors overall feel that there is a greater benefit to the whole community if Hindu children were to be encouraged to mix with people of all backgrounds.

Yours Sincerely,



Keith Savage

Chair of Governors

Priestmead First School and Nursery and Priestmead Middle School

Cc

Mrs J Evans - Headteacher Priestmead First School and Nursery

Mr B Robertson - Headteacher Priestmead Middle School

Consultation Reply

Thank you very much for your interest in this project and time taken to complete the form below. We welcome your comments as they will guide our proposals.

Please return this reply sheet by no later than Monday 25th September 2006 to:

I-Foundation
25 Hill Street
Mayfair
London W1J 5LW

1) Please indicate, by ticking the appropriate box, whether or not you support the proposal set out below to:

Open a new one-form entry Hindu primary school plus a 52 place Nursery, from September 2009. The School will open with the Nursery and Reception class and will incrementally add one class year at a time each year going forward.

Please tick one of the following boxes:

I/we support the proposal

I/we do not support the proposal

YOU ARE INVITED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BELOW

Please see attached letter.

Overleaf we have requested some information on yourself, including contact details, so that we can carry out the necessary analysis and keep you informed. We would be grateful if you would take a little time to fill-in the information requested.

2) Please also help us to collate people's views by ticking the appropriate boxes if you are one or more of the following:

School Governor

Please specify school:

*on behalf of Governing Body
Priestmead First & Priestmead Middle
Schools.*

Member of School Staff

Please specify school:

Parent or Guardian of Pupil

Please specify school:

Resident of London Borough of Harrow

Local Elected Member

Please specify party:

Member of local community group

Please specify group:

Member of School Diocesan Authority

3) Please answer the following questions about yourself:

Your Name: *Keith Savage*

Your Organisation(s): *Priestmead First School & Priestmead Middle
School Governing
Bodies*

Your residential postcode: [REDACTED]

Your email (required if you wish to be kept informed with updates):

[REDACTED]

4) Please indicate by ticking the box if you would like to be kept informed with updates on the progress with this initiative (email required above).

Please keep me informed

Signed: *KSavage*

Date: *10-10-08*



21 September 2006



Dear Mr Koorichh,

Re Proposal for new one form entry Hindi Primary School, on the proposed site on William Ellis Sports Ground, Camrose Avenue, Edgware, Middx HA8 6ES

Following the recent announcement regarding the consultation about Hindu School, as a local resident and governor of one of the existing local schools I have the following objections-

Local schools are currently undersubscribed. The Council School Organisation Committee has predicted that this trend will continue.

In our experience, schools with surplus spaces suffer in the following ways-

- Difficulty in planning for the future as the budget is uncertain
- Lack of stability owing to employing temporary staff
- High mobility of pupils which has a detrimental impact on raising standards
- Strategic planning limited to managing turbulence

I am concerned that local residents have not been consulted, unlike the community surrounding the previously identified site. Has any consideration been given to traffic congestion at the beginning and end of the school day?

This very contracted consultation period (six working days) has meant little Consultation has taken place. Can you be confident that you have truly gathered the views of all our community?

I look forward to your response and trust that you will reconsider the consultation in the light of my comments.

Yours sincerely,



Pauline Trenchfield

Cc Stag Lane Middle School Governors
London Borough of Harrow



London Borough of Hillingdon
Finance & Resources

Our ref: (le1932)

Date: 22nd September 2006

Dear Mr Koorichh

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposals to open a Hindu School in Harrow. The proposals are sufficiently far from the Hillingdon border to be unlikely to affect the demographics in Hillingdon schools. In those circumstances, we do not oppose the development.

Should your plans change again, please let us know what the new circumstances are.

With all best wishes

David Tully
Assistant Director: Finance and Resources

Making a difference

www.hillingdon.gov.uk

STAG LANE MIDDLE SCHOOL



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

20th September, 2006

Dear Mr Koorichh,

Re Proposal for new one form entry Hindi Primary School, on the proposed site on William Ellis Sports Ground, Camrose Avenue, Edgware, Middx HA8 6ES

Following your recent email regarding the consultation about Hindu School, I have the following objections-

Local schools are currently undersubscribed. The Council School Organisation Committee has predicted that this trend will continue.

In our experience, schools with surplus spaces suffer in the following ways-

- Difficulty in planning for the future as the budget is uncertain
- Lack of stability owing to employing temporary staff
- High mobility of pupils which has a detrimental impact on raising standards
- Strategic planning limited to managing turbulence

The addition of your school will exacerbate this situation.

I note in your letter that arrived at the end of last week that you propose a one-form entry school. You also state your expectation that "demand will clearly outstrip available places." I am aware of Government proposals that state popular schools should be allowed to expand, can you guarantee that you will remain a one-form entry school?

This letter is brief. I have had NO TIME to consult properly with staff, governors or parents. This very contracted consultation period (six working days) has meant little consultation has taken place. Can you be confident that you have truly gathered the views of our community?

Moreover, I am concerned that local residents have not been consulted, unlike the community surrounding the previously identified site.

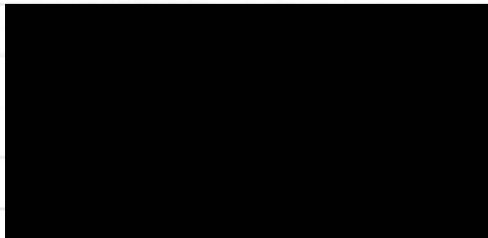
I look forward to your response and trust that you will reconsider the consultation in the light of my comments.

Yours sincerely,



H. Evans (Mrs)
Headteacher

CC: Chris Melly
Chris Moat
Heather Clements
Paul Clark



21st November 2006



Dear Sirs,

Proposed Development - William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware.

I would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu Scriptures and teaching of preserving and protecting the environment, taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field. Contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening environment situation in this area.


I appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. I would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours faithfully

~~Mr. M. O. J. J. J.~~
Mr. P. J. J. J.



8th November 2006



Dear Sirs,

Re: Proposed Development of William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex.

We would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to be totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment; taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field. Contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening the environmental situation in this area.

We appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. We would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

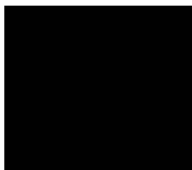
Yours faithfully,



Mrs. June Kay



Mr. Alexander Kay



9th Nov. 2006

Dear Sirs

**Proposed Development – William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware**

I would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment; taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field. Contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening environmental situation in this area.

I appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. I would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours sincerely

D. J. Simson.

[REDACTED]

10th November 2006.

[REDACTED]


Dear Sirs,

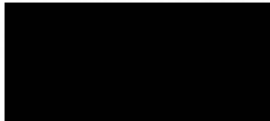
Proposed Development - William Ellis Sports
Ground, Camrose Avenue, Edgware.

We would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment; taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field, contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening environmental situation in this area.

We appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. We would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours faithfully,


P.A. Evans.



9th November, 2006



Dear Sirs,

re: Proposed Development - William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware

I would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment, recognising an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field, as well as contributing to increased pollution which will result in a worsening environmental situation in the vicinity.

I appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. I would therefore encourage your organisation to consider an alternative site and not to be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours sincerely,



Gwenda Lawrencepulle (Mrs.)




06 November 2006

Dear Sirs

**Proposed Development – William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware**

I would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment; taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field and greatly contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening environmental situation in this area.

I appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose the site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. I would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Jaward

Your Address



Dear Sirs

11.11.06

**Proposed Development – William Ellis Sports Ground
Camrose Avenue, Edgware**

I would strongly urge you to think again about your proposed development on the above site, which seems to go totally against the Hindu scriptures and teachings of preserving and protecting the environment; taking in an ecological paradigm to treat nature and all species with respect and care. This development will actually do the complete opposite, destroying the varied nature and wildlife that currently exists on the sports field. Contribute to increase pollution and as a result a worsening environmental situation in this area.

I appreciate it was Harrow Council who chose this site for such a large development, but ultimately your organisation will be seen as the destroyer of nature and a polluter of the environment by building on this sports field. I would therefore urge your organisation to think of an alternative site for this development and not be pushed into buying this very unsuitable site from Harrow Council for such a development.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. H. H. H.', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.