15-12-06

Dear Councillor Stephenson,

I am writing on behalf of Aylward School's Governing Body to lodge objections regarding the building of a school for the 'I Foundation' on the William Ellis Playing Fields.

Right from the beginning this process has been rushed and muddled. During the summer holidays there was a sudden change of site for the proposed school and very little explanation has ever been given to the local schools. We received a letter on the 29th September from Geoff Wingrove and he explained that there would be an opportunity to object once the statutory notices had been published. At no time were local schools informed of those notices having being published nor were they sent to us as a matter of courtesy. It is widely known within the Council that the Canons Cluster of Schools object to this proposal on the grounds that we have the biggest number surplus of places in the Borough.

I do not believe that the proper procedures were followed in regard to the statutory notices; none of the local schools were given copies of the consultation document and were therefore unable to comply with the response time given.

In the light of this I urge the School Organisation Committee take advantage of the flexibility within the regulations and allow our objection to be considered when they are discussing the proposal at their next meeting.

Can I have an assurance for my Governing Body that this will be so?

Yours sincerely,

Moira Arnold



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