

Katharine Thomas

From: Susan Cusack <susan.j.cusack@gmail.com>
Sent: 10 January 2019 00:00
To: Future Merton
Cc: Najeeb Latif; Councillor Andrew Howard; Thomas Barlow; DK Neil Mills
Subject: Wimbledon Masterplan Consultation

Dear Mr. McGarry,

Thank goodness the consultation has been extended so I have a chance to send in my views. You will have received 1000's of responses so I'll be brief.

1. Building Heights

18 Storeys is TOO HIGH and would mean development on a scale and intensity not appropriate for Wimbledon Town Centre. No building should exceed 8 storeys.

2. Wimbledon as a Metropolitan Centre - No we don't want Wimbledon to become a mini-Croydon

3. I'd like to see Pedestrianisation as per the Wimbledon Society's plan. You mentioned (on 12th November) that there was some problem with the camber of the road but given the millions that will be spent I'm sure this is something that can be overcome.

4. 8,000 extra jobs? There is no evidence given for this figure and with increasing numbers working flexible hours (more likely in 20 years time) and working from home it is unlikely that the high-rise/mid-rise offices will be needed.

5. "This Masterplan is not reliant on Crossrail 2" - the levels of investment required would be largely dependent on the introduction of Crossrail 2 which would also bring new railway crossings to relieve the traffic on Wimbledon Bridge. The removal of traffic would also allow for the pedestrianisation as mentioned in point 3 above.

6. There are specific historic buildings identified during the consultation which should be preserved to keep Wimbledon's character.

7. Make Wimbledon a fantastic destination - not just somewhere to pass through - a new concert hall would bring in audiences from far and wide (via Crossrail 2) to Wimbledon for plays, concerts, comedy etc at cheaper prices than the West End. (Think a venue like Hammersmith Apollo but with outside space and pedestrian access). This would lead to people eating & drinking in Wimbledon before and after performances and also staying overnight.

Best Regards,

Susan Cusack
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