

[REDACTED]

From: P [REDACTED] Wood [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 December 2018 15:32
To: Future Merton
Cc: P [REDACTED] Moore; S [REDACTED] Hammond; M [REDACTED] Bream; D [REDACTED] Featherstone; A [REDACTED] Tuck
Subject: Wimbledon Masterplan

Dear Wimbledon Masterplan Team,

My name is P [REDACTED] Wood and I'm the Senior Operations Manager at Everyday Church.

My reason for emailing is that we have just been made aware of the public consultation regarding the Wimbledon Masterplan, and that the closing date for the consultation is 6th January 2019.

Everyday Church has a number of congregations and buildings, one of which being Everyday Church Wimbledon, 30 Queens Road, where we regularly gather around 500 worshippers each Sunday.

We are extremely concerned that the plans for the redevelopment of Wimbledon town centre are so advanced, and that they highlight our site and seem to involve the demolition of our church building, but yet we haven't had any personal approach from anyone at the council regarding this.

We would like to seek reassurance that we've misunderstood the plan and that it does not in fact involve the hostile acquisition and demolition of our site.

It is a shame that there has been no attempt to meet with us to explain the plan and the impact it could have on us. This is not good practice and calls into question the desire to help Wimbledon town centre to flourish as we are a large church and a major community & care provider. We would have expected more courtesy and collaboration.

Even if the plans do not require the acquisition and demolishing of our site, our collaboration in helping to shape the surrounding town centre (not least those parts that will immediately adjoin two sides of our site), would have been incredibly valuable for all parties.

Should the council wish to acquire our building we would also ask for reassurance that we would not suffer any period without a premises and that any new site & premises would, among other things, be at least the same footprint, have at least the same square-foot of floor-space, at least the same cubic-space, and be at a similar distance to Wimbledon station as our current site and building. We have been a town centre church since 1872 and have already cooperated with the council once for a relocation in 1986 so would need reassurance that we are not being forced out of the heart of Wimbledon where we've been for almost 150 years.

I look forward to receiving your reassurances and would also value a meeting on Thursday 3rd Jan for you to explain the masterplan to us and talk us through any elements of the plan that will impact us.

I would greatly value it if you could respond before lunchtime tomorrow (Fri 21st) as we will be closing our offices for the Christmas period shortly thereafter.

Many thanks.

God bless,

P [REDACTED] Wood.



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