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From: S [REDACTED] Foster [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 December 2018 15:42
To: Future Merton
Subject: Wimbledon Masterplan

I was very active in 1980s with the *Wimbledon Town Centre Coordinating Group* [WTCCG - 25 different Residents Associations in Wimbledon) trying to stop the Conservative Council from destroying Wimbledon by knocking down the old Town Hall, Civic Hall, Fire Station, and Methodist Church in Queens Road in order to build large height office blocks, shopping centres, etc. We didn't completely succeed (Civic Hall was demolished), but the old Town Hall, Fire Station and Methodist Church façades were kept; no high scale office blocks were built so the town centre stayed at a low level development with the new Centre Court shopping area. Overall the new development was accepted and the residents were happy.

Now over thirty years later the same type of development plan is being produced by the council; this time a Labour Council. There is no longer a WTCCG, but *The Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre* is a similar local group run by Wimbledon residents. The planners should respect the views of those who actually live in the town centre and not the developers who just want to make a quick profit, no matter if they destroy the street scape, reduce the view of the sky, create wind tunnels detrimental to pedestrians, etc.

In addition, many unused office blocks throughout London have been converted to flats as the need for offices has diminished. I can't see any logic for building unnecessary, unneeded large office blocks.

The Council also should respect and listen to the *Wimbledon Society* who have produced a well thought out plan created by several renowned, retired architects and town planners who have had a lifetime of experience. Their plan is suitable in developing a town centre which the residents and others can be proud and which give a good quality of life.

Regards,

S [REDACTED] *Foster*