

[REDACTED]

From: E. [REDACTED] O'Donnell [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 January 2019 16:22
To: Future Merton
Subject: Masterplan

Dear Merton Council,

I wish to inform you of my strong objections to your vision for the future of Wimbledon Town Centre.
I have lived in Wimbledon for more than 50 years.

Existing buildings are a monument already to Merton Council's lack of foresight in design and planning.
Each building is more ugly and ill designed than the next with no thought given to any sort of coherence of design, materials etc.

I do have to refrain from laughter at the use of the word Piazza for such a miserable scrap of public space.

The few historic facades and buildings which have been preserved were only saved because of massive local opposition to Merton Council's plans (e.g. the facade of Centre Court and the Library).
The sad history and lack of thought can give me no confidence in the latest plans.

I particularly object to the huge increase in building heights which will completely change the character of the town.

The Council have not taken into account the huge changes in society, technology and working life which have already begun to affect retail and business.

Will there really be a need for 8000 extra jobs and a 50% increase in commercial space.

Where is the evidence?

The Council wishes Wimbledon to be recognised as a Metropolitan Centre like Croydon or Kingston in order to allow large scale development.

Merton Council would certainly benefit from this but I do not believe it is in the best interests of the people of Wimbledon, or what they want for their town.

A Concert Hall is a wonderful idea and would be a real benefit to residents and visitors alike.

It might go some way to making up for the loss of the Civic Centre space which was promised, by the Council, to be replaced in previous re-development.

Yours,

E. [REDACTED] O'Donnell,