

# THE FULHAM SOCIETY

REGISTERED CHARITY No: 262396

*President:* The Rt Hon and Rt Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of London

*Chairman:* David OBE *Vice Chairman:* John Putnam

*Honorary Secretary:* Maya Donelan MBE

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17 October 2010

Nigel Pallace  
Director of Environment  
Town Hall  
King Street W6 9JU

Dear Mr Pallace

## **Proposed Hammersmith Town Hall Development**

Although this is not in Fulham, it is our Town Hall and we are therefore commenting on the proposed development as follows:

We understand that the greater part of the proposed buildings are between 7 and 9 storeys high, about the height of the current Town Hall Extension, and that there are two towers of 14 storeys – at least twice the maximum height initially proposed. We consider this unacceptable over development of the site, which would set a precedent for future development in the centre of the Borough, including along the river, which would be impossible to challenge in the future. It would also dominate and overwhelm the listed old Town Hall.

The original point of this exercise was to reinstate the frontage of the old Town Hall to King Street as it was originally planned. This proposed new development will completely negate this effect by overwhelming the Town Hall and completely defeating the point of the exercise.

We are also concerned about views from Fulham, from the river and along King Street of this over large building. It will not enhance any of the local conservation areas and have a hugely detrimental effect on views from the river – along the riverside.

There is already a perfectly good footbridge under the A4. Surely this can be improved, made more attractive and with better landscaping, lighting and signage it will provide perfectly adequate for access across the road. The proposal for a bridge, with the enormous amount of land which it will inevitably take up, seems to us quite ludicrous. It will dominate and use a large amount space in a very small park and will have an appalling effect on the historic area around the Dove. The expense, the damage to the local area, the waste of open land do not justify a bridge when there is a perfectly adequate underpass, which just needs refurbishment.

The Fulham Society is therefore opposed to this development on the grounds of height, over development of the site, local views and the total waste of money and land on a bridge over the A4, especially as there is a viable and simple crossing already in place.

Yours sincerely,

Maya Donelan MBE  
Hon Sec  
Fulham Society