



## THE HARROW HILL TRUST

Caring for the heritage of the Hill and its future

The Tower Cottage  
Harrow Park  
Harrow HA1 3JE

16<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Planning Department  
Harrow Council  
Civic Centre, Station Road  
Harrow HA1 2UY

*Via email to: [planning.applications@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@harrow.gov.uk)*

*cc Ward councillors*

### **Planning application: P/1813/19 and P/2504/19 – Oldfield House, John Lyon School**

Dear Lucy Haile

I am writing on behalf of the Harrow Hill Trust Planning Committee about the proposed rebuilding of Oldfield House by the John Lyon School.

I note that, following deferment of the Council planning committee's decision, the applicant has submitted an 'alternative sites' study. This appears aimed at justifying the existing proposals. I am concerned that, in the production of this study, the applicant has failed adequately to explore, and engage with residents on, how the proposed building design could be adapted so that it can be located on the site of the existing building. There appears significant scope from such engagement to identify how such an adapted scheme is able to strike the right balance between meeting the needs of the school, minimising harm to the Harrow Hill Village Conservation Area and heritage assets, and conducting works (e.g. lorry movements) in a way that is acceptable to residents. I note in particular that the Trust has not yet been engaged.

I would expect substantive engagement on this now to take place between the Council planning team, the applicant and local residents before the application goes again for decision - in line with the minuted purpose of the deferment. Failing that, the application must be refused and the applicant would need to come forward with a new scheme. We continue to stand by our objections to the existing scheme as set out in my letters of 11<sup>th</sup> June, 28<sup>th</sup> June and 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.

We have noted, with disappointment, the difficulty that local residents encountered in ensuring the minutes of the relevant Council planning committee meeting accurately reflected the (recorded) discussion at the meeting about the purpose of the deferment.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Less', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Dr Simon Less**

Chair, Harrow Hill Trust Planning Committee

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