

Comment submitted date: Wed 07 Dec 2016

Your ref: 16/6662/FUL

On behalf of the Mill Hill Residents Association I wish to object to the proposed development at Hasmorean Girls School.

Our reason for objecting is down to the following factors:

1: Green belt land in the Mill Hill district is scarce and carries a premium for developers. Already we have a number of Green Belt lands under threat in Mill Hill. The cemetery field on Milesplit Hill is under threat and the land at the top of Woodcote Avenue is also under threat. If permission is given to extend the school onto the existing Green Belt land in Copthall this will set a very dangerous precedent and could open the door to further erosion of our much needed Green Space.

2: Traffic in the area is already heavy and congested at school times. Experience shows that the vast majority of parents still insist on driving their children to school and no amount of travel plans and promises by the schools ever stop this. We believe that when operational the school will generate even more traffic than before and will bring a lot of inconvenience and delay for local residents.

3: I have no doubt that Hasmorean School deserve a good site in which to rebuild their school. However the choice of this particular site would take away a very significant amenity from every single Mill Hill Resident. Sadly in these times security has to be a high priority for the school with the result that Green Belt land currently owned by all Barnet Council Taxpayers would be lost forever behind a secure fence.

4: This land is part of the Copthall Open Space is also subject to the Copthall Planning Brief. Other sites in Barnet and elsewhere should be assessed for use of the school.. These proposals are not in line with the Copthall Planning Brief and are also not in line with the emerging Mill Hill Neighbourhood Plan and therefore should be rejected.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Logue
Chair MHRA