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Mr Stuart Cooke  
Planning Officer  
Development Management Support Planning & Regeneration  
639 High Road  
Tottenham  
London N17 8BD

2010/0500

6<sup>th</sup> April 2010

#### **Future of Hornsey Town Hall and Its Site**

Dear Mr Cooke,

I am writing to offer some feedback on the consultation material that I have looked at in relation to Haringey Council's development of Hornsey Town Hall and its site. I write as a long term resident of Crouch End (over 20 years) and as an academic art historian with some expertise in looking at architectural plans and official planning papers.

The first point to make is that there are a number of ambiguities and inconsistencies in the plans that make the Council's intentions for the site unclear. This problem arises partly because of the long period of time during which these plans have evolved, but more worryingly may be a result of lack of clear forward planning on the part of the Council.

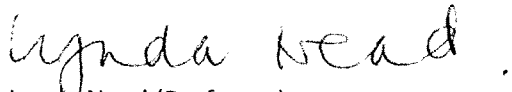
As far as the planned residential accommodation is concerned, am I correct in thinking that this is now anticipated as being up to 6 stories in height, as opposed to the 3 stories originally planned? This would suggest a far bigger residential site, that would not only overshadow the town hall building itself (a conservation site) but, more importantly, would also carry enormous implications in terms of the pressures on the local area and its facilities. Transport in the area is already badly stretched (I suggest you queue for a W7 at 8.30am at the bus stop outside the town hall) – a factor that is not acknowledged in the plans submitted to public consultation. Car parking also looks inadequate for the size of the planned accommodation.

Over the years, there has been much excitement in the local area concerning the possible cultural uses of the town hall space and the proposal of a dedicated cinema space has been particularly popular. I see no recognition of this popular local view in the plans, nor of other types of cultural use that have been put forward by the community during the extended periods of consultation.

In short, I am disappointed by the inadequate period <sup>and</sup> mode of consultation at this stage of the project and at the inclusion of expanded – but unsupported – residential accommodation and limited cultural facilities.

I hope that you will represent my views in the feedback to the consultation and look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynda Nead". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lynda Nead (Professor)