

February 2009

Dear Resident,

Tileman House

I am writing to urge you to have your say on the plans for Tileman House in Upper Richmond Road. Living in the direct vicinity of this block, you will be most affected by it.

While the plans for Tileman House are considered by some to be less damaging than the Putney Place towers we defeated last Autumn, they still represent substantial over-development.

I am no fan of the existing Tileman House. Despite some strong competition I think it is the ugliest block in Upper Richmond Road. This site desperately needs redevelopment. But that should not mean redevelopment at any price. **These plans are too big a price.**

- They are far too high - at their peak almost twice the height of next door 205 Upper Richmond Road (where the Heathbridge Clinic is): in itself a tall building. That will mean over-shadowing, loss of privacy, and make Upper Richmond Road even more of a "canyon".
- They eradicate office space. The existing Tileman House is, principally, an office block, kept deliberately empty by its owners. The new Tileman House will principally be a housing block. It is vital for Putney's economy that we preserve office/employment space. The willingness of the Conservative Council to see this lost is an example of their lack of a plan for Putney.
- They provide far too many homes - and not enough of those flats will be affordable. We are in desperate need of affordable homes to rent in Putney: over half the council's affordable housing stock - more than 16,000 affordable homes has been sold off by the Conservatives - and in these economic times Putney is in even greater need of low-cost homes for rent.
- Each over-development plan sets a precedent. The owners of Putney Place, the Capstick site and others are watching what happens. This will be the tallest building in the area. It will send the signal that plans to build even higher and more densely will be approved too.

Please have your say. Write to the council direct: Planning Applications, Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, SW18 2PU. Or email planningapplications@wandsworth.gov.uk. The reference is 2008/5428. Or you can fill in the enclosed survey, also online at **stuartking.net/tileman**.

If you choose to write separately, it would help if you could copy me in. And if you would like to be kept informed please let me have your email address.

Yours sincerely,

Stuart King

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