

Wandsworth Society

Julia Kelly
Wandsworth Town Hall
SW18 2PU

30th September 2015

Dear Ms Kelly,

Feathers Wharf. App 2015/4784

Whilst we are obviously pleased that, if this application is approved, then there will at long last be a Wandle riverside walk along the side of Feathers Wharf and that the walkway over the Waste Transfer Station will be open to the public to continue the Thames Path, we are nevertheless particularly concerned about two aspects of the proposals.

The SSAD of the local plan makes very clear, in writing and with a diagrammatic plan, that the northern end of the wharf is to be open space. The Inspector of the current local plan examination, recognised the historic value of this requirement and said "*Development on Feathers Wharf will not be permitted unless provision is made for public open space at the mouth of the River Wandle*" and he wrote that "*it must be made clear that it is to be materially different from incidental open space on other riverside sites*". This open space requirement is a much reduced planning condition of the original Waste Transfer Station application where the whole wharf was to be open space. The current application takes no account of the SSAD requirement and shows the site operations path curving around the end of the wharf with storage containers within this parameter.

There is no 'temporary use' excuse for this omission of the open space. Ten years is not temporary (nor is 20 years for the development on the southern half of the site). The Wharf has had commercial 'temporary' usage by different organisations for 32 years. It is time for the open space requirement to be implemented.

With regard to the Wandle riverside walk, at present a six-metre wide path and ecological area is fenced off at the request of the Environment Agency. This width should remain and not be reduced to 3 metres. Three metres will not be wide enough for a path and an ecological area. Neither will it be the required width for a shared pedestrian and cycle path.

We should like to see some kind of vegetation on the walls of the building in the southern half of the wharf to give a more pleasing appearance.

We ask that the application is re-submitted with the required area of open space at the Wandle mouth and a 6-metre Wandle ecological area and walkway.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Passmore
For Wandsworth Society