17 - 19 Rochester Row London SW1P 1JB

(Ref. No: 23/05475/FULL)

15 August 2023

The Thorney Island Society was pleased to be consulted on this scheme in advance of the application for planning permission.

At the time we agreed that the external changes will be an improvement, but were uncertain about the roof terrace, about which we are still concerned. The restrictions on the opening hours of the terrace (7 am to 11 at night, Monday to Friday, with use all day on Saturday) will create disturbance for residential neighbours, especially as the terrace is large and is bound to result in noisy use, even if music is not allowed, whatever the Draft Operational Management Plan claims.

We suggested at our meeting that part of the space could be used for photovoltaic panels, leaving a more modest area as recreational space, which would reduce the noise levels.

We suggest that planning permission should only be given if there is a reduction in size of the terrace, perhaps concentrating the open areas away from neighbouring buildings, and that the restrictions on the hours of use are altered – perhaps 8am to 8pm. In addition we suggest that use on Saturdays is not permitted, to preserve the weekend quiet for neighbours, especially for the alms houses opposite.