# Green Belt Destruction... Mill Hill - once it's gone it's gone



Hasmonean School are still looking to acquire and build on our cherished but diminishing protected Green Belt land at Copthall London NW7, that could be bulldozed and fenced off, public access denied to future generations.

**2016** Planning Application submitted to enlarge the existing school curtilage of 5.89 acres to 15.29 acres, by fencing off a further 9.4 acres of public Green Belt land, likely transferred from public to private ownership.

**2017** GLA refused the application on grounds:

'Inappropriate development of Green Belt land and the loss of open space'. (GLA advise that any new school proposal should be within the curtilage (5.89 ac) of the existing school).

Lack of sustainable transport measures to support the development'.

2024 July. Amended planning application submitted, the significant change to original 2016 application:2.6 acre area removed from the plan, but the 2.6 acre area is shown on plan as fenced off behind a 2.4m weld-

ed wire mesh fence, with a security controlled gate.

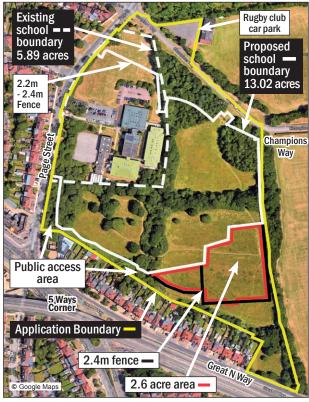
**Drop off/pick up facility removed** from the plan, but Mill Hill Rugby Club Car Park now added to drawings.

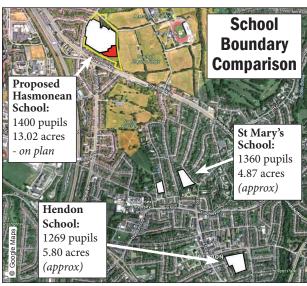
- Public land transfered to private hands, no public access
- Overbearing 4 storey, 19m high main building, 15,300 sq.m of buildings plus flood lit all weather pitches
- 1400 pupils (increase from 550 at present)
- 167 parking spaces, possible rental by Saracens visitors, part of Watling Chase Community Forest felled for Tarmac
- Increase in traffic, parking, congestion, pollution and noise
- Loss of 'SLINC' Nature Conservation Site, historic 18th century hedgerows. Loss of trees protected by TPO

### **Stop this Planning Application**

To view and object to this application please go to: https://publicaccess.barnet.gov.uk/online-applications/
Enter reference '16/6662/FUL' into search box at bottom.
Details on how to object see our web page: bit.ly/4cPJLRT







Objections made after 24th can be emailed to: planning.consultation@barnet.gov.uk

www.green-belt-destruction-nw7.org.uk info@green-belt-destruction-nw7.org.uk

Deadline for online objections 24th Sept.

#### Objections from 2016 based on planning matters - still stand ...

The Mill Hill Preservation Society (MHPS) which works in the public interest, has looked in depth at the original application, and its objection letter, stating all the reasoned arguments and policies that protect Green Belt, can be found on the Barnet planning website - or at these links:

www.green-belt-destruction-nw7.org.uk/MHPS 2016.pdf or bit.ly/4dTxMRs

The Society is currently finalising its response to the amended application.

The development will permanently fence off a large area of 'free to roam' public land, outside its fences will be just narrow and disjointed areas of land left for the public, the once wild, rural and open setting gone, dominated by an overbearing structure, the area impacted by increased traffic, congestion, parking, noise and pollution.







Proposed new tree planting offered as 'screening' we consider will be inadequate to reduce the visual impact of the 19m high development on the remaining public land and surrounding residents homes.

#### 'Very special circumstances' to build on Green Belt have NOT been demonstrated.

The school has turned down alternative sites. The amended application documents show no evidence of alternative site searches made since 2016.

The existing schools do not 'need' to be situated on the same site, as the boys and girls will not be taught together. One of the fundamental arguments for the application centres on the inconvenience to their staff travelling between different sites. This argument should **NOT** override the protections of the Green Belt and does **NOT** constitute 'very special circumstances'.

Many schools operate adequately on more than one site, as Hasmonean currently are. Oversubscription is not in itself reason for the building of a giant private school on the Green Belt.

If approved, a precedent will be set that threatens other public Green Belt and open spaces.

Our original 2016 leaflet can be viewed at: bit.ly/3z9RcSN and this 2024 leaflet here: bit.ly/3XhGLOy

Objections can still be made after 24/09/2024 by emailing: planning.consultation@barnet.gov.uk - up to the determination date (see our website for date), these objections will still be recorded.

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