

15/7/93

Fibbens Fox Associates Chartered Town Planners

11.1.1

JOB 1871

ERUV

CONFERENCE WITH COUNSEL - JOHN STEEL QC

MONDAY 12TH JULY 1993 NOTES/ACTION SHEET

IN ATTENDANCE :-
Mr. David Schreiber (DS)
Mr. Graham Morris (GSM)
Mr. Laurence Begner (LB)
Mr. David Chanan (DC)
Mr. Eric Fibbens (EF)
Mr. Graham Murdoch (GAM)

ACTION

1. JS began by expressing his opinion that there is a strong case potentially meriting, but not likely to get, an award of costs.
2. JS felt the weakest point to be the Conservation Area where wire has the potential to stand out more. EF suggested that appeal proposals could be modified by substituting thinner wire as originally proposed. JS agreed. We should write to various parties if possible including sample of wire. DS suggested Alan Perrin best source for sample/details. GAM
3. By way of background GSM, DS, LB and DC described various types of objectors who could be summarised as:-
 - i) "Escaped" Jews
 - ii) Traumatized immigrants
 - iii) "Frank Davis" syndrome
 - iv) Ultra orthodox Jews
 - v) Childs Hill Humanists
 - vi) Gentile objectors especially from HG Suburb (partially whipped up by press)
4. JS felt over-enthusiastic objectors should help our case. Suggested our response be low key with letters from Chief Rabbi, Jewish Care and the Committee for Christians and Jews. DS
JS also suggested need to consider "political" lobbying at junior minister level. DS.

5. GAM outlined current situation on revised application and appeal.
- i) A report will be going to Barnet's Planning Committee on July 21st seeking authorisation for a limited consultation exercise. Application will not be put to Committee until use of street lamp columns considered by Public Works - if Public Works Committee in September, this means Planning Committee in October. DS said Chairperson of Public Works may have powers to deal outside Committee DS
 - ii) Barnet have been approached by Planning Inspectorate concerning appeal dates. 2 days starting 15th September has been suggested but turned down as start of Jewish Festival. GAM to liaise with JS's Clerk and suggest dates, possibly early December, to Inspectorate. Avoid 16/9-10/10 Appeal will be determined by SoS. GAM
6. JS suggested 2 witnesses:-
- i) Someone to explain Sabbath, concept of Eruv, matter of Jewish law etc (?GSM)
 - ii) Dealing with planning matters (EF). This witness must be able to answer points on third party objections.
7. JS suggested we collect evidence on "Honeypot" argument but not to be submitted as part of proofs. Suggested Mosque in St. John's Wood, Buddhist Temple in Battersea Park, Coptic Church in Searsdale Villas as egs. GAM/EF
8. Rule 6 Statement to be amended to incorporate reference to
- i) History and explanation of Eruv will be given both generally and specifically with examples of locations.
 - ii) Stress that the community precedes the Eruv which is a response to community needs. Positive requirement of Jewish Law not alternative to strict compliance.
9. JS suggested photographs should be provided by existing Eruv's of mock-up Eruv wire or wire and poles. DS
10. JS requested that a sample wire be strung for him to view. It may be worth showing it to the Inspector. DS

GAM/PCF
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