

APPENDIX FFA 1 : QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE - ERIC DAVID FIBBENS

A1.1 I am a Bachelor of Science in Estate Management of the University of London and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. I hold the Diploma in Town Planning of the University of Westminster and I am a Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. I also hold the University of London Extra Mural Certificate in Transport Studies.

A1.2 I was employed by a number of Local Planning Authorities in the Greater London area for 11 years between 1962 and 1973, being concerned with development control matters, Local Plans, and the selection of sites for Local Authority development. I entered private practice in 1973 and was for some years responsible for the Planning Division of a large firm of architects before commencing practice on my own account in 1978 as a Partner in the firm of Fibbens Fox Associates. The Practice was incorporated in 1991 and I am the Managing Director of the Company.

A1.3 I am also a regular visiting lecturer in Town Planning at the University of Westminster, and a regular speaker at training courses for Councillors organised by the National Association of Local Councils.

A1.4 My firm offers a Chartered Town Planning Consultancy service throughout the United Kingdom and overseas. Overseas we have been responsible for preparing Master Plans to guide the provision of co-ordinated public utility services and the expansion of 28 separate towns ranging in size from 5,000 to 300,000 population. In the UK our work is primarily related to development control; assessing the prospects for obtaining planning permission, negotiating with Local Authorities, and dealing with appeals where appropriate. We also advise on the impact of emerging policy, and act for a number of District, Parish and Town Councils, and "3rd Parties" interest groups, including CPREssex and the London Green Belt Council.

A1.5 Much of our work involves property in London, including the London Borough of Barnet. I have had considerable experience in dealing with planning matters within Barnet and am familiar with the Council's policies.

A1.6 I have also had considerable experience in dealing with planning matters relating to Conservation Areas.

A1.7 I first became involved with the appeal proposals earlier this year when I was asked to advise the Eruv Committee following the Council's decision to refuse planning permission on 24th February. I have advised them in respect of the lodging of the appeal against this decision, the lodging of a repeat planning application which made amendments to the scheme intended to overcome the concerns expressed in the Council's reasons for refusal, and in the lodging of the second appeal following the Council's failure to determine that application within the statutory period.

A1.8 I have inspected all the locations which are the subject of this appeal.

A1.9 I have also made diligent inquiries of the appellants to explore the possibility of achieving their objectives (the definition of the Eruv perimeter) by some method other than that proposed. I am satisfied that this could not be achieved in accordance with Jewish law.