

from Stephen.Howlett@peabody.org.uk  
to Dr Sharman Kadish <director@jewish-heritage-uk.org>

date 6 October 2011 11:59  
subject RE: From Jewish Heritage UK re former Jewish Maternity Hospital 'Mother Levy's'

Dear Dr Kadish

Thank you for your recent email regarding Peabody's proposals for 22-28 Underwood Road.

Peabody understands that this is a sensitive site and we are committed to working with all members of the local community in the development of this project. We held one public consultation event so far on 25th July 2011 with local residents and the feedback was extremely positive. As you will be aware, the building has not been occupied or used for some time and local residents are keen to see an improvement to the local area.

Together with Brady Mallalieu Architects we have reviewed a number of options that involve retention of existing buildings on the site. We have however reached the conclusion that none of these options are feasible as they would impact both on the number of homes and the layout of any new residential scheme such that Peabody would not be able to deliver the scheme.

We are of course committed to recognising and commemorating the site's history and are proposing a number of measures to achieve this. These include naming the new building appropriately, perhaps after one of the important figures in the site's history, installing a commemorative blue plaque as you suggest, and we are also exploring the potential for incorporating the history of the site into the design of the Underwood Road facade of the new building. We have also instructed a historic building consultant to prepare a Level 2 Historic Building Recording of the existing buildings and we will make every effort to ensure this document is shared with all organisations and individuals who have an interest in the history of the site.

We are proposing to have a second public consultation event in early November prior to the submission of our planning application and the demolition of the existing buildings. We hope that this event will provide an opportunity for people interested in the site to become involved in the various commemorative steps outlined above. Once we have a date/venue confirmed I will ask a member of our development team to send you an invitation to this event, however I understand that you are not based in London therefore if there is anyone you would like to attend please do let us know. We can also forward you a copy of the consultation material by email.

Kind regards  
Stephen

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