

8 September 2009

Mr D Barnes
Head of Development and Enforcement
London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames,
44 York Street,
Twickenham TW1 3BZ

Dear Mr Barnes

Boat at Richmond Bridge – River Thames Visitors Centre – Greedies by the River,

I have written previously to you on general matters relating to the area of Richmond Riverside immediately south of Richmond Bridge.

This letter relates to the operations of the the River Thames Visitors Centre.

From accessing the LBRUT website I believe the most recent planning application is 05/1404. It is not clear from your website how this application was resolved as this matter appears to have gone to appeal. There does not appear to be documentation available on your website to report how the appeal was resolved however there is a letter (dated 6 July 2006) from Kate Barnes of LBRUT to Mr Edwards (the applicant) that "the Council has now granted planning permission for the development" and there is also a Planning Committee minute dated 3rd November 2005 stating that planning permission would have been granted with specified conditions if the matter had not gone to appeal.

So I am working on the assumption that the proposed planning conditions set out in 05/1404 and in appeal correspondence are the planning conditions under which this business operates.

The most significant planning condition re day to day operations is that "*The premises shall be used only as an information and/or exhibition centre for the River Thames and for no other purpose..... and any sale of food or drink shall be purely ancillary to the stated purpose*".

Listed below under separate headings are the matters I bring to your attention.

Development of the Site as a Cafe/Restaurant

There are approximately 12 tables on pontoons/decking and on the deck of this boat, providing seating for of the order of 30 people. There may be more inside. Advertising banners emphasises the site as a cafe/restaurant. The dominant perspective on approaching the boat is that it is a cafe/restaurant. I believe the cafe/restaurant is operated by a third party, "Greedies", who have separate premises in Isleworth.

Has there been any modification of the original planning condition that "*any sale of food or drink shall be purely ancillary to the stated purpose*"?

Is the current business selling food and drink in a manner purely ancillary to the stated purpose of the original planning application?

Construction of a Separate Structure as an "Extension"

A separate structure is currently being constructed on pontoons alongside the boat, this structure is approximately 3m x 3m x3m. I attach photographs.









