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LONDON ASSEMBLY LABOUR



Andrew Dismore AM

Re: Letter of support for Midland Hotel ACV application

Date: 29 November 2018

I am writing to express my support for the campaign led by Rev'd Dr Julia Candy, the priest in charge of the local parish of St John's in West Hendon to designate the Midland Hotel into an Asset of Community Value.

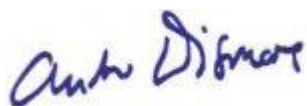
As the former Member of Parliament for Hendon from 1997 to 2010, and London Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden since 2012, I know this pub and the location very well. The pub has long been "part of the furniture" in Hendon, and welcoming presence at Hendon Station. The loss of this pub would do irreparable damage to the fabric of the community here, who would lose one of the only pubs left in Hendon and West Hendon.

The wilful and wholesale destruction of valued community assets is a disgrace. This comes hard on the heels of the loss of The Chequers pub in Church End, Hendon, of which I also opposed the planning application. In recent years there has been the loss of 20 pubs within a 1.5-mile radius of Hendon Town Hall. Local residents are frustrated at the lack of action by Barnet Council to preserve pubs in the community.

However, The Mayor's London Plan (LP) requires that London's 33 boroughs have Pub Protection Polices (PPP) in place. Barnet does not appear have has such a policy and would be non-compliant with both the National Planning Policy Framework and the LP PPP.

I hope that the campaign to designate the Midland Hotel into an ACV is successful, and that the Council sees sense.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Dismore AM

Labour London Assembly Member for Barnet and Camden