

Wednesday 3 November 2021

Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation statement on Mission Pentecostal Church, Hammersmith & Fulham

OPDC did not and has never approved the eviction of the church, in fact, OPDC has always been very clear with the developer and the church that its position has been to support the protection of the church to remain in this location as a valued local community asset. OPDC only became aware of the eviction notice on 29 October 2021.

Fruition Properties' planning application was approved in June 2018. Critical to that permission was that Fruition secured replacement space for the Mission Pentecostal Church and associated foodbank and nursery as part of the new development.

OPDC has created planning policies to support the church and other existing community assets including:

- Policy TCC3 of the draft Local Plan (2021) requires existing social infrastructure facilities to be protected, unless it's clearly demonstrated that it is no longer required, or that the facility would be appropriately replaced or provided elsewhere in the locality.
- Place Policy P10C1 'Harrow Road Cluster' which specifically requires development to 're-provide the floorspace of a church use and associated community use at 2 Scrubs Lane on site including new fitted out building space at community use rent levels'.

OPDC has always been very clear that the re-provision of community floorspace for the church is essential within any future scheme on the site.

Our chief executive and senior officers are liaising with Andy Slaughter MP, the local boroughs, Fruition and the church to ensure the valuable community services provided can be safeguarded.