



NEWS



<http://www.handsoffinchleycentral.co.uk/>

FINCHLEY STANDS UP FOR 'HANDS OFF FINCHLEY CENTRAL'

Concerned residents gather for campaign against 'Godzilla-like' plans



At a packed public meeting organized by 'Hands Off Finchley Central', some 300 locals heard the destructive plans being pushed by Transport for London (TfL) and developers Taylor Wimpey for Finchley Central – turning the station area into what one resident has called a “pound-shop Canary Wharf”. Concerned - and angry - residents heard the details from campaigners including Mark Fineberg, as well as leading local councillors and MP Mike Freer (pictures.) Mike Freer said he'd be a “megaphone” for those campaigning against the plan, while Mark showed how the area will be swamped with grossly inappropriate tall buildings housing 550 flats, crammed into a tiny land space. Mark acknowledged there would probably be changes to the plan coming up – but predicted that would be tinkering, “putting lipstick on a gorilla”. See the latest - truthful - images on our website, <http://handsofffinchleycentral.co.uk/>

KILLA GORILLA

Developers' lipstick applied to over-development plans



Over 3 days, the developers showed us their latest plans for wrecking Finchley Central.. *Down* comes the 27-storey tower block... to 20 storeys. *Up* go the number of parking spaces, from 12 to 100. *In* comes some greenwash, 'pocket parks' and trees. But the new blocks will still loom menacingly over our station and its surroundings. As for those flats in the car park - they fessed up. Yes, in fact they *will* be 7 storeys high - the top 3 storeys looking straight into rear first floors down Hervey Close N3. Mostly people's bedrooms, that is. As for loss of light and overcrowding - bad as ever. There's not enough lipstick in the world to make this gorilla look anything less of a monster. Let them know what you think by e-mailing barnetconsultation@newingtoncomms.co.uk, or by calling 0800 223 0987.

ITV NAILS IT

Reporter Sam Holder tells like it is on ITV News



Sam did a good (and fair) job - not helped by the fact that none of the development partners would be interviewed. Given the massed ranks of smoke & mirrors merchants at their second consultation at Stephen House (see 'Killa Gorilla'), that does seem pretty feeble. Top marks also go to Sam and cameraman Mike for persuading Central House to let them take some shots from high up in the building - which Sam used to open his report (picture), with these words: **"It's hard to picture, but 560 new homes are set to be built on this narrow road and car park in Finchley Central."** *Touché...* Sam also

made the very important point that grotesque plans like these are trundling towards many other transport hubs owned by TfL, with all the subtlety and sensitivity of a Sherman tank.

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