

Canning & Clyde Road Residents Association

Website: www.canni.demon.co.uk

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Mr Robert Stevens Assistant Director Planning Control North Taberner House Park Lane Croydon CR9 1J7

7 February 2003

Dear Mr Stevens

Application N°s: 02/03668/P

Thank you for informing us of the application for planning permission for this important site. Our association's view is as follows:

We object on two grounds. The first reason for objecting is we have seen no evidence that centring the scheme upon a 12,500 seat arena is realistic. We are fully aware that the idea was first proposed by Chas Chandler many years back; then it might have worked under his skill. Unfortunately he died; moreover we now have a complete whole-scale development of Wembley on the other side of town.

In all reasonability you cannot expect the arena to be in daily use whereas, if the space were given over to, say, more housing, it would be. We understand that there has been no economic assessment for the arena scheme; we think one should be undertaken.

We therefore object to this application on the grounds of poor land utilisation. This is reflected in the latest UDP.

The second reason is, should this major scheme proceed at the same time as the Allders development, the heart of Croydon will become an unattractive no-go area for many shoppers and visitors who will go elsewhere. A decline in the centre of Croydon will reduce the quality of life for our residents.

Please do continue to notify us of developments.

Yours sincerely

Steve Collins Chairman

Secretary : Anne Bridge, Flat 3, 42 Canning Road, Addiscombe CR0 6QF Tel : 020 8656 6707 E-mail : <u>abridge@canni.demon.co.uk</u>