

1 March 1974  
Ham & High

# Tolmers Square

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## goes on show

FOLLOWING the withdrawal of Camden's controversial scheme for the redevelopment of the Tolmers Square area last October, the Tolmers Village Association has put together an exhibition of their own ideas and hopes for the future of their community.

The exhibition, at the TVA's headquarter's shop at 102 Drummond Street, Euston, will be open for the next two weeks, and the organisers hope that people, especially Tolmers Village residents, will come along and add to the fund of ideas.

It provides factual information about the area, with charts showing the breakdown of ownership of the properties, and the backgrounds of the people who live there.

The exhibition also puts forward a number of broad new proposals for the area, including the setting-up of a locally-controlled Housing Association, the renovation and restoration of existing properties, as well as new street facilities, traffic management schemes and open spaces.

The TVA sees the exhibition as the first stage in a programme of alternative proposals, designed to show that an area can be revitalised by methods other than wholesale demolition and

destruction, and that it can be done largely in accordance with the residents' wishes and needs.

"We have been trying to work out a way in which the local community can play more part in running their affairs, rather than being at the mercy of people who want to make profits," said Mr Gavin Brown, the assistant treasurer of the association.

Cllr Frank Dobson, the leader of Camden Council, who visited the exhibition last week, told the Ham and High that he had found it interesting and one which highlighted the good intentions of both Camden and the association.

But he was more wary about suggestions for local control through a housing association.

"We must pursue a consistent policy. Camden should run this housing in the way it generally runs housing, and I don't think we should put new tenants in a privileged position over old ones," he said.

But with much depending on a highly unpredictable election yesterday, no-one was prepared to comment this week on the financial practicalities and realities of the various proposals.

"Once we know who we are up against we will have a better idea about what is practical and feasible," a spokesman for the association said.