

Town Hall 'buying up Levy'

At least,
this is
the idea

THE RUN down Levy-owned homes of Tolmers Square should be bought up by Camden Council immediately.

This was the Tolmers Village Association's message to Camden's housing chairman, Councillor John Mills, at a public meeting last week.

Among the 70 local people at the meeting were residents of Levy owned properties in Tolmers Square, North Gower Street, Hampstead Road and Cobourg Street who complained bitterly of the council's apparent inability to do anything about their appalling housing conditions.

The meeting was held in the wake of the council's decision to compulsorily purchase properties in Drummond Street and North Gower Street where a rehabilitation scheme has been agreed.

In answer to an accusation from one local restaurant owner that the Council were selling out to Levy, Councillor Mills replied: "Buying out — not selling out."

Councillor Mills said that he had been trying to persuade the council to make a CPO on the whole area — but without success.

Speaking as ward councillor for the area, councillor Mills said: "We must start a campaign to make public opinion realise that the community and the council and the Government want to make Levy sell under CPO at a reasonable price — but we have to have public opinion pushing people."

The council, he explained, had not CPO'd Levy property where there was no plan or decision what to do with the property.

A resolution demanding a guarantee that none of the existing residents or businesses be displaced was passed unanimously. The meeting also unanimously supported a motion which is to be submitted to the council's housing committee, that all Levy property should be CPO'd and rehabilitated, and all existing tenants who want to move be rehoused.