

# Council seems cooler to new Tolmer scheme

CAMDEN Council kept their options open for the re-development of Tolmers Square as they discussed whether to switch their deal with Joe Levy's Stock Conversion and Investment Trust Ltd. to the new proposals put forward by Claudius Properties.

But there were indications that the proposals put forward by Claudius Properties, under which all the profits from the scheme would be transferred to the council, now did not carry quite so much weight with members of the ruling Labour group.

Cllr Frank Dobson, the leader of the council, warned that there could be long delays if the council, decided to proceed with an

agreement with Claudius Properties, the brainchild of journalists Christopher Booker and Dennie Gray.

He said: "As I understand it they might go on for five years. We must very seriously consider when we consider the financial advantages of one alternative, the social advantages.

"We must consider that we may be condemning a child to five years in a stinking basement and that's what we want to avoid.

Cllr Dobson said he wanted to stress that there had been no delays to the project yet. A feasibility study on the area had been completed by the architects.

But Cllr John Lipetz said of the Claudius proposals:

"Here we have a possibility of being able to get a better deal. It is at least a squeeze on this wealthy property developer."

The council agreed to find out further information about Claudius Properties' financial position and — if they were favourable — to hold discussions with Claudius with a view to seeking an agreement.

## Members meet Joe Levy's as second firm in for Tolmers Square

secret meeting will take place on Monday morning Camden councillors and Joe Levy's Stock Conversion and Investment Trust Ltd, to discuss development of Tolmers Square, Euston.

council received a letter from Stock Conversion and Investment Trust Ltd pointing out that costs on building were rapidly rising.

moves come after Camden Council deferred a decision on whether to proceed with a joint development with Stock Conversion or adopt a new plan by Dennie Gray and Christopher Booker's Claudius Properties. The Claudius plans include proposals to purchase the land in the Tolmers Square area, owned by Stock Conversion.

one of the council Frank Dobson, deputy leader of the council, Cllr Peter Best and Ald Roger Jowell in the party to meet Mr Robert Clark, chairman of Stock Conversion.

Mr Clark, spokesman for Stock Conversion, refused to say whether Stock Conversion had called for the meeting. He said he "didn't know it had been arranged." (See Tolmers Square on Page Seven.)