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# Concern over rehousing Tolmers Square tenants

DISQUIET about the future of the tenants of Tolmers Square under the development plans which have been put forward was expressed at St. Pancras Borough Council on Wednesday. Cllr. Miss Clare Mansel, chairman of the planning committee, hoped to come to some arrangement for the satisfactory rehousing of the tenants.

Cllr. Charlie Ratchford said the council had plenty of warning about the plans to redevelop the square.

"I hope the L.C.C. will take proper cognisance of our attempts and will do their best to keep people in their homes."

He asked Cllr. Miss Mansel if she could say what steps were being taken to ensure that the present tenants would be offered accommodation at rents they could afford.

Cllr. Miss Mansel pointed out that it was not within the council's power that new tenancies were offered to present tenants.

"I, personally, am deeply concerned in this matter, and I am in touch with the chairman of the L.C.C. Town Planning Committee."

ELSEWHERE

# L.C.C. Flats welcome at Tolmers Sq.

The possibility that the L.C.C. may take over and redevelop the Tolmers Square, N.W.1, area was welcomed this week by the Tolmers Square Tenants' Association. The association secretary, Mrs. Rose Gavin, said: "This is what we have urged all along. We are going to keep on pressing the L.C.C. to get on with the job."

"It is about time they made up their minds. We want the L.C.C. to take over the area and redevelop it. Only the L.C.C. will build flats here which we could afford to live in. Private developers want to build either offices or luxury flats."

## A delegation?

She pointed out that Mr. Henry Brooke, the Minister of Housing, had said he was against new office building in central London.

"We are hoping that the L.C.C. will meet a delegation from our association so that we can put our point of view to them. We are also hoping to see our M.P., Mr. Geoffrey Johnson Smith, so that he can put the facts before Mr. Brooke for us."

The fact that the L.C.C. were now considering action was a step forward.

"But it's only a very small step. We shan't be satisfied until we see blocks of L.C.C. flats here in the square. When that happens we shall know we have won—but not until then." 24/2/61

N. London Press

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# L.C.C. may redevelop Tolmers Square

NO decision on the future of Tolmers Square, N.W.1, has been made, but it is believed the L.C.C. are considering rezoning and redeveloping the area.

On Tuesday, the chairman of the L.C.C. planning committee, Mr. W. G. Fiske, told Mrs. Leila Campbell, a member for Holborn and St. Pancras South, that permission was refused for three schemes for redevelopment. In two cases a reason was that no provision was made for the replacement of residential accommodation.

## Zoned for commerce

Mr. Fiske said the council's officers were considering whether the Tolmers Square area, which is zoned for commerce, should be rezoned for other purposes, including housing. He hoped a report would be submitted soon, but pointed out that rezoning would need Government consent.

Commenting afterwards Mrs. Campbell said: "I have known for some time that something was in the wind and I thought it was about time people knew what was going on. The area likely to be included in a comprehensive development scheme is much larger than just Tolmers Square."

## The triangle

"It would probably take in the whole triangle of land bounded by Euston Road, Hampstead Road and Gower Street."

Mrs. Campbell hoped that any comprehensive development of the area would be done either by the L.C.C. or the borough council. Redevelopment in private hands would almost certainly result in too great an emphasis on offices and on high-priced housing accommodation.

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