

The community marches to save Glasgow's Lanes.

2-3.30pm 16th October

March/Demonstration – Glasgow WEST END

Attendees: MSPs and Councillors from all political parties.

Expected Attendance: 150-200 people

Contact: otagolane@googlemail.com

Save Otago Lane Campaign

Glasgow's alternative culture based in the West End has never been more under threat, with the redevelopment of Ruthven Lane and Cresswell the gradual corporatization of Ashton Lane as well as the encroachment of G1 and Stephan King into the bar and café culture. Otago Lane is one of the last bastions of indie activity, home to thriving small speciality and artisan shops such as Tchai-Ovna tea house, the only clock maker in Scotland and the famous Voltaire and Rousseau bookshop. This is now under threat from Otago Street Developments Limited – owned by the infamous ex-chairman of Greenock Morton FC Hugh Scott. Scott plans to build a large complex of city centre style luxury flats (over 140) and offices. This would cause Otago Lane to close for 2 years along with its businesses with over 30 job losses, making life hell for its inhabitants. In addition a vital wildlife corridor, along the banks of the river Kelvin would be lost.

The blocks of flats, rising to over 9 storeys high, clearly breach Glasgow City Council's own planning law, especially RES6 which protects lanes from over development. In an area where there is already a problem with overcrowding and with parking this development would only exacerbate problems. No Environmental Impact Assessment has been done despite

the largest buildings being on the river bank and there being a history of intensive mining in the area.

Residential organisations and the community is also furious that though 4000 letters of objection were received by the GCC over 1600 have been somehow disappeared.

A petition with over 3500 signatories has been presented to the council, and there are now over 7000 members of the facebook campaign group, so public support has been massive and the plans probably the most unpopular submitted in recent years.

The council plans to meet in the coming weeks to decide on whether or not to grant permission.

Residents, business owners, politicians and other members of the public have been given the go ahead by the police to march along the West End's busy Byre's Road to raise public awareness of the deadline of the campaign and to bring attention to the fact that it is not an isolated case.



For more information see: www.saveotagolane.co.uk