Comments Re Planning Application - 6/2018/2768/OUTLINE

Planning Application for Hatfield Green

The application proposes to use a substantial area of Ellenbrook Fields approximately 67 hectares. The proposal for gravel extraction of some 86 hectares when coupled with the planning application for housing development will consume the vast majority of the Ellenbrook Field Parkland. Therefore, only a very small area will be available to the public for recreational usage. Considering that during gravel extraction (32 year period) large areas of the site will be unavailable for public access due to health and safety reasons this flys in the face of previously made agreement and planning to enable the land for public access parkland.

Impact of 1100 new homes on existing Hatfield Road Infrastructure/capacity

The planning application indicates that there will be two main road entry/exit points to the development. Taking into consideration (according to 2014/15 statistics for the Southeast car ownership per household) the number of cars per household was 1.34, this development will increase the flow of traffic in/out via two roads considerably to already what are congested roads in the area and in particular the A1057. If you also add the increased traffic volumes of heavy goods vehicle as anticipated from the gravel extraction (some 178 lorry movements per day). This can only exacerbate traffic congestion, noise and exhaust pollution within a residential area. This is unacceptable, and no account appears to have been made to be able to mitigate increased traffic and pollution in the plans.

Pollution

The Ellenbrook Fields/Parkland have been proven to be contaminated with one of the highest levels of bromate contamination in Europe (as defined by the Environmental Agency). A previous planning application to build a grass strip airfield on the site was objected to by the Environmental Agency due to the impact of water run off /water table changes could have on the bromate levels/water table, with obvious risk to potential contamination of drinking water. This housing development must not be allowed to go ahead due to the risk to our drinking water.

Flood Risk

I live in Ellenbrook Lane, the brook already rises when we have rain. If this housing development is approved, there will be significantly more water run off due to the fact naturally absorbing vegetation will have been removed from Ellenbrook Fields to be replaced by concrete, roadways and house roofs. There is already limited water way capacity in the Ellenbrook. This proposed development will considerably increase the risk of localised flooding in the Ellenbrook area with significant impact to residents and property.

Summary

- I object to any further development taking place in the Ellenbrook Field/parkland.
- The development will remove the vast amount of local parkland space available for residents as promised in the 1999 planning permission. Open recreational space is vital for the wellbeing of Hatfield residents.
- Increased noise and traffic exhaust pollution which is detrimental to good health and wellbeing of residents and people who use the area.
- Increased level of traffic congestion on already congested roads in the area.
- Reneging on Section 106 agreement as part of the planning permission for creation of the Country Park