

Objection to Ellenbrook Fields Redevelopment

I am objecting to this plan on several grounds, because:

- Hatfield has very few wide open, green “breathing” spaces - we are in serious need of local parks and places to walk as it is. From the looks of the plan, the park will amount to just 10% (if gravel works are permitted) of what it is now, which will also be difficult to access for those residents not living on the new housing estate.
- It goes against what was promised in the 1999 planning permission of having a park available for residents. Less than 20 years later, and this park is already at serious risk.
- The fields are used very regularly for walkers and runners - it hosts the successful Ellenbrook Fields parkrun every Saturday morning, which is of great benefit to the health and wellbeing of the community. It would be a tremendous shame if this had to stop, and would incur a huge loss of community from those who regularly meet to walk and run in this beauty area.
- The area is home to many species of wildlife and hosts rare woodland.
- Huge increase in traffic, including lorries, down what is already a very busy A1057. Coopers Green Lane is also hugely overcrowded. It is simply not sustainable to add even more pressure, noise and pollution, to these roads. Doubled up with the traffic being added to with the developments in St Albans (near Beaumont School, and on Sandpit Lane).
- Quarry works – if permission is granted then considerable proportion of the Park will be unavailable for resident’s use whilst gravel extraction takes place, which could be a huge 32 years!
- There is a potential risk to our drinking water caused by development on a site where bromate is present.

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