

From:
To: [Planning](#)
Cc:
Subject: Application Ref: 6/2019/0085/MAJ
Date: 15 February 2019 11:26:06

F.A.O. Mr David Elmore
Planning Dept.

Dear Mr Elmore

With reference to the above and our telephone conversation on the 6th February 2019, thank you for allowing us extra time to send you our objection. We write to confirm that we strongly object to the expansion proposed by Chancellors School. Unfortunately we have struggled to download the application details on our computer, however from the information that we have obtained, we are not happy with their application.

As you know, the school is situated on Pine Grove, a quiet, no through road in a small quiet village on the Southern outskirts of Hatfield. We have lived on this road for 25 years now and seen the changes to the school over the years together with an increase of traffic, noise and air pollution.

This application was apparently put forward for expansion, due to "growing local community." The school currently has around 1,090 pupils (foxtons) yet there are only around 400 11-18 year olds in the local community of Brookmans Park! This means that only around 40% of the pupils are from the local community, therefore there is no need for any expansion in this quiet, little village.

We believe that Chancellors School should remain the same, or be reduced in size and allow schools that are closer to the main "growing local community" be expanded, like Mount Grace School, Potters Bar. It has two Main entrances, one in Quakers Land and another on Mount Grace Road. The site is very large, they have two gyms athletics areas, football pitches etc and they are a town with a "growing local community." Chancellors is in the wrong area for expansion. There are already huge travel disruptions that come with the school. They do not stagger their pupil drop offs and pick up sufficiently, relying on a handful of pupils from each year to go to breakfast club or have a sports fixture is insignificant.

Increasing the size of the school, thus increasing the volume of vehicles would be extremely detrimental making it even more hazardous and unsafe for all involved. We live with the school zig zag yellow lines outside our house, yet the cars park outside, blocking our drive on a daily basis at pick up and drop off times. We have seen a child dragged by the rucksack on his back by a school coach. Accidents happen quite frequently, (not always reported, as the youngsters don't want to increase their insurance premiums) this once quiet village road is not suited to this volume of traffic. As a consequence of this excessive traffic the road constantly has potholes. The council doesn't even recognise that the road needs gritting in the winter due to the school vehicles which need to take the children, thus causing further accidents and disruption. The vehicles travel at high speeds and we have seen someones cat run over, again on Pine Grove.

The parking is not controlled, there is a lack of parking enforcement. The school has put up signs along one side of the school road, but due to their lack of parking spaces on the school and in the surrounding area, they still park their vehicles up on the pavement, so the children have to walk on the road to pass! It is only a matter of time before a more serious accident occurs. The 33 parking spaces would not even cover the current problem that the school have with parking. Their staff and pupils park their vehicles on both sides of Pine Grove, from the top of the road, working their way down the hill. Then the parents come and sit in their vehicles (I've seen some waiting up to an hour before) with engines running in the cold weather causing more pollution and blocking our driveways so they can get as close to the school as possible. There is never anyone to police these drivers. Once we had to go into the school and report a vehicle parked over our driveway, we showed the receptionist the photo of the vehicle on the phone... It was a member of staff!!! This is a school that cannot cope at with the present numbers, let alone expansion. If they were to expand, the pupils would be coming from other areas, not locally, so they would cause more disruption as they would not be able to walk or cycle to school. However even if they could, most parents wouldn't want their children to, as it is unsafe. I know of parents that live on the next road and drive their teenagers to school because they feel the roads/pavements here are no longer safe. I would like to refer you to the schools recent letter dated 3rd October 2018. (see below)

Based on all the above, I urge you to deny this application please.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely

59 Pine Grove, AL9 7BL