

20 Peel Court  
College Way  
Welwyn Garden City  
Hertfordshire  
AL8 6DG

22 January 2023

The Planning Department  
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
The Campus  
Welwyn Garden City  
Hertfordshire  
AL8 6AE

Dear Sirs

Re Proposed development of Campus East Car Park-6/2022/2901/MAJ&6/2023/0034/FULL

I was horrified and saddened when I discovered the details of the Planning application made for the above site and strongly object to them. Whilst I understand the need for more homes and the re-use of underutilised land there has to be a way of proceeding that will not scar the environment or the human beings living in and around it.

With the experience of the last couple of years we are all now very aware that people need their own space in which to live and, very importantly, a little outside space of their own. To this end I feel that only houses with gardens should be allowed to be built in this town especially as so many flats have already been built and many remain unoccupied. Surely this must tell you something about the needs of those searching for homes.

In this particular case the density per hectare can only deprive people of a satisfactory life style and potentially breed aggressive and anti-social behaviour. Not because that is the sort of people they are but because overcrowding is so stressful. Amongst other things the lack of car parking provision would be sure to cause problems immediately. Everyone should have their own driveway in which to park at least one car and provision should be made for extra cars per household and for visitors. I do have a little experience of life on the Biopark where the density per hectare is half of that proposed here, with one parking space per house and no driveways and I know that there is always tension. This is no way to force people to live.

The picture on the Bellway brochure of the proposed development looks like Victorian workhouses and that's meant to show it at its best! Imagine how depressing it would be to live there. We are supposed to be looking after people's mental health and wellbeing not pushing them into potential slums.

Of course, as everyone knows, there is no infrastructure to support the huge numbers of people moving into the area. No schools, hospitals, leisure facilities, GPs, dentists etc. Roads, drainage and water services will also be inadequate.

My husband and I moved to the airy surroundings of Welwyn Garden City six years ago and since then the area is quickly becoming, as someone recently and aptly designated it, Welwyn Concrete City. The founders must not only be turning but spinning in their graves at the ruination that those with only a lust for money are inflicting on the place.

My home overlooks this site and although I may still be alive to suffer the construction work I may or may not be here to see the finished development I feel that I must protest on behalf of those that follow and, in particular, the younger folk who will have to live with the consequences of what you decide today.

Understandably those making these decisions today are trying to swell public funds as much as possible but please, please give a little thought to what you are doing to our town for the future and the health and welfare of those living in it.

Yours faithfully

