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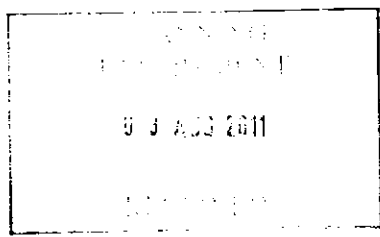
TESCO

**6 Sherrards Park Road
Welwyn Garden City
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7th December 2010

Helen Bromley,
32 Parkway,
Welwyn Garden City,
AL8 6HQ



Dear Ms Bromley,

STRONG OBJECTION TO TESCO DEVELOPMENT IN WELWYN GARDEN CITY

I am writing to you in your capacity as a Welwyn Hatfield Councillor. I have no idea whether you are on the planning committee or indeed, whether the planning committee has anything to do with this application, but I feel so strongly about this that I am writing to all Councillors. Please make sure my objection is heard. I helped elect three Sherrards ward councillors – but it is surely up to all Councillors to find out what their constituents views are, and to represent those views in such a big decision for our town. We need vocal Councillors to make themselves heard! Please be one of them.

WGC will shortly have a great big new Sainsburys (which is very welcome as it replaces a poor store); we already have fabulous Waitrose and that is surely enough supermarket provision near or in the town centre. That we already have an enormous Tesco in Welwyn Hatfield, only a tiny distance from the proposed new site, makes their proposal all the more incomprehensible to a simple shopper like me. The east side of town has a good Morrisons that provides excellent shopping. I am fearful that ANY shop in the area of the proposed application would undermine our fragile town centre, which can only be to the town's detriment. Footfall would be inevitably driven towards a Tesco and away from existing shops. To who's advantage is that? Certainly not people like me who walk into town most days to shop. I cannot easily stand by and watch our town centre become impoverished like Hatfield did.

Surely, too, it must have a dreadful impact on the smaller community shopping areas on the east side of town. What about the poor shop owners in Woodhall, Hall Grove, Hollybush and especially Peatree? They must be in fear for their livelihoods as competing with Tesco is a lost battle.

I understand that Tesco are trying to bribe us with the inclusion of a swimming pool and gym, as well as a vast number of flats (surely 400+ cannot be right?). But who will pay for the running of these leisure facilities? Not Tesco! We already have a fabulous gym at Gosling, and several on the old aerospace site where there are also swimming pools, as well as the one in Hatfield.

Please protect our town centre and make yourself heard in representing your voters. I object to this development and want my voice heard!

Yours sincerely,

Susan Forrow

