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From: Richard Aston  
Sent: 22 August 2011 09:44  
To: Planning  
Subject: FW: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

ACK

-----Original Message-----

From: Malcolm Cowan  
Sent: 19 August 2011 22:27  
To: Richard Aston  
Subject: FW: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

One more for the collection.

Malcolm.

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From: Sandra Barrow [redacted]  
Sent: Friday, August 19, 2011 3:17 PM  
To: Malcolm Cowan  
Subject: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

Dear Malcolm,

Further to the e-mail and letter sent by my Financial Controller Phil Hughes. I must reiterate my grave concerns about the impact Tesco will have on our business and those of others in the area but must also add the voice of those of us who shop and/or reside in Welwyn Garden City.

I need say nothing further about the implications on traffic as this appears to be the key objection and has been argued well but I must also say that in my experience the opening of an in-town Tesco superstore will be detrimental to the community and will result in the death of the town centre. With a store so close in Hatfield what new business do Tesco plan to generate? None I would suggest, rather they will be stealing business from others and Welwyn Garden City town centre will become another Hatfield! Tesco are renowned for their devious practices and have caused the same in Launceston in Cornwall (to name but one), where they 'kindly' paid for the town centre to become pedestrianised but there is no parking, not even disabled parking! The outcome of course is the transformation from a very healthy and diverse town centre to a ghost town.

Monopoly is not healthy for any town and even the local community shopping parades are seriously threatened by this plan. I read an article concerning the strategy of Tesco and their aim is to further increase their current huge growth in non food items, they will have analysed what they can steal and with the costs of rent, rates and insurance alone many of the shops in Welwyn Garden City will be unable to compete. I agree that competition is good for consumers therefore a food store of the size of Waitrose, Sainsbury's and Morrisons may be argued but there is no case for another superstore.

As you may have gathered I am very fearful of Tesco, their greed is unquenchable, they are not happy to be a competitor they want it all and will get it at any cost, they already have Hatfield, two stores in Stevenage and Tesco Express shops so again I ask where is the new business coming from? I have friends who work in the buying departments of Tesco and others who have been suppliers and could write an essay on their unethical ethos, they railroad suppliers into liquidation with fines and charges and just move on to the next. All that glitters is not gold and Tesco have no interest in Welwyn Garden City, their only interest is in Tesco profit.

I understand that the planned housing promise has already been compromised and that the design totally opposes the existing and carefully preserved character of the area, history states that this will be just the tip of the iceberg so as a business woman I cannot understand how council after council are hoodwinked by the unethical practices of this giant. In the short term you may gain income but in the long term you will lose if current businesses cannot survive and the character of the town is lost.

It is very frustrating to be powerless in the making of this important decision and I can only hope that the elected Welwyn Hatfield councillors will use their integrity to put the interests of the town before those of Tesco profits.

Kind Regards

Sandra Barrow  
Financial Director

Barco Sales Ltd  
Barco House, 15 Bessemer Road  
Welwyn Garden City, Herts. AL7 1HB  
United Kingdom

-----Original Message-----

From: Phil Hughes  
Sent: 19 August 2011 11:44  
To: Peter Barrow; Sandra Barrow  
Subject: FW: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

fyi

Phil

Phil Hughes ACMA MAAT  
Financial Controller  
Barco Sales Ltd

-----Original Message-----

From: Malcolm Cowan [mailto:malcolm.cowan@welhat.gov.uk]  
Sent: 17 August 2011 22:20  
To: Phil Hughes  
Subject: RE: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

Thank you for your email and attachment. As you may know, as I am likely to be a substitute member of the planning committee when (assuming if) the application goes for a decision, I am forbidden by law from commenting publicly on the application.

However, as someone who specialises in highways matters as county councillor for Peartree, I am taking a close interest in the traffic issues and have had more than one briefing on the background to the report. The stress on Bessemer Road will indeed be very great.

Best regards, Malcolm.

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From: Phil Hughes [phil@barco.net]

Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2011 10:01 AM  
To: Malcolm Cowan  
Subject: Proposed new Tesco store at Broadwater Road site

Dear Malcolm

Following this week's article in the WH Times detailing the gridlock which will descend onto our roads in and around Broadwater/Bridge Roads should the new Tesco store be approved, we would like to register our serious objection to the proposal with yourself.

As a local business in the immediate vicinity of the proposed site (we are in Bessemer Road), the impact on our staff and on our trade could be severely detrimental. Having a smooth flowing road network at all times is essential for our business. We would appreciate that the concerns of local businesses are heard and our objections are considered objectively prior to any decision being made on the new Tesco site.

I attach a copy of a letter our Managing Director is sending to the Council today.

With regards

Phil

Phil Hughes ACMA MAAT  
Financial Controller  
Barco Sales Ltd

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