

Rate Reps

From: Lynne Sparks
Sent: 02 January 2012 15:42
To: Planning
Subject: Fwd: Tesco's Swimming Pool & Leisure Site



Pls see below
Regards
Lynne

Begin forwarded message:

From: Peter Barrow <[REDACTED]>
Date: 29 December 2011 21:23:53 GMT
To: Lynne Sparks <Lynne.Sparks@welhat.gov.uk>
Subject: Tesco's Swimming Pool & Leisure Site

Dear Ms Sparks,

What is the annual cost of Hatfield Swimming Pool to the ratepayer?
What is the major re-furb cost every 10 years of Hatfield pool to the council/ratepayers?
Does WHBC really want a leisure albatross around the ratepayers neck?
The proposed Tesco leisure offering is something that needs to be voted upon by the entire council as the impact of a £1million annual overhead foisted undemocratically upon the ratepayers of Welwyn & Hatfield, should have a transparent vote, so the electorate are able to show their opinion at the ballot box.

What other services will have to be cut to pay for these leisure facilities, that have never been planned or budgeted for by the council?

Tesco's Leisure traffic congestion. = TLC

Look at the Gosling leisure car park and see how busy that is and indeed the car parking spaces it enjoys.

If inadequate parking for the leisure is provided, then leisure users will park in the shopping car park (as the swimmers do in Hatfield's Asda car park)
Add any TLC into the shopping traffic predictions and the traffic forecasts are like the original M25 estimates, way too low.

In my opinion, WGC is well served by community shops and leisure facilities. If Tesco's is passed, then there will be a shrinkage of these shops, with a possible domino effect to other shops as the footfall reduces. See Hatfield town centre and Cavendish local shops in Bishop's Rise Hatfield. This will inevitably lead to more isolation for the elderly. Take yourself along to a local shopping area with a post office, especially on a Thursday and see just how these shops act as community centres.

Tesco's Petrol Station. They will want one, if not now but later when the dust has settled. (See Stevenage) What extra traffic issues will that create, especially if the Esso garage closes in Bridge Road or the TCS garage at Stanborough Road.

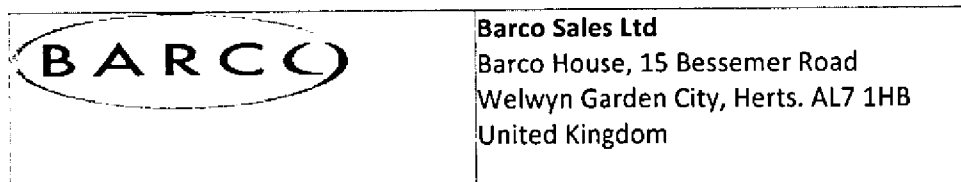
History and experience offers us an opportunity to balance the decision scales.

I cannot see a good reason economically or socially for approving Tesco's P. A.

I asked a couple of staff at the new Sainsbury's store in mid - December how the store was performing. The answer both times was "below expectations" Is the council ready for a Sainsbury's sized pound shop if Tesco's precipitates Sainsbury's closure?

Regards

Peter Barrow
Commercial Director



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