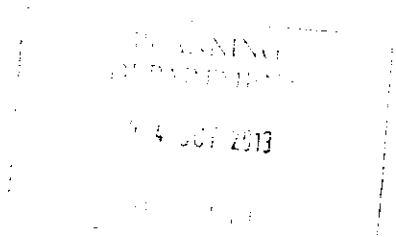




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Sent: 03 October 2013 14:58
To: Planning
Subject: Welwyn Hatfield Council Online Planning - Comment



Application Number: N6/2013/1938/MA
Name: Paul Taylor
Address: 5 Youngs Rise, Handside, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6RT Comment Type: Object
Comment: I protest at Welwyn Hatfield Council spending over £5m on a new and grandiose car park entrance to its offices at Campus East.

The new glass lobby is completely out of character with the rest of the building and totally unnecessary. Such a glass facade is not necessary for light: look how the John Lewis building and others solve this issue.

The existing Council Offices are a period design that should be complemented, not contradicted.

I simply wonder if some of the Councillors are just wanting a memorial for their car park entrance?

I understand the Council thinks that it will soon need to house a further 150 people at Campus East, following the end of a lease of other premises on Bridge Road East.

If the most cost-effective option is to renew the lease on those Bridge Road premises, then that should be considered first. If we need to re-house these 150 people, then we should then consider Hatfield, where there is more space. We need more investment in Hatfield, rather than overdeveloping the centre of WGC.

This new scheme should be withdrawn and more compatible proposals drawn up.

It's shocking to see the Council scrimping everywhere, and us having to walk in the dark at night, after they've switched most of the lights off, whilst being so self-indulgent as to rush through plans to spend rate-payers' hard earned money on this new folly.

Lastly, the new council chamber isn't fit for purpose as it doesn't have enough seating space for our Councillors. Some kind of mistake?