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Sent: 20 November 2013 21:30  
To: Planning  
Cc: Michel Saminaden; Helen Bromley; Tony Skottowe; fiona.thompson@welhat.gov.uk  
Subject: N6/2013/1938/MA Objection to amended plan submission

PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT

21 NOV 2013

Dear Sirs

The amended plan is patently outwith the requirements of the Welwyn Garden City Management Scheme.

Hence reasons for objection remain the same as to the original plan -

1 We refer to the Council's own documentation regarding the Welwyn Garden City Management Scheme

*POLICY EM1 - Extensions and alterations to existing buildings will only be allowed if they are in keeping with the design, appearance, materials and architectural detailing used in the existing building and do not have a detrimental impact on the amenities and values of the surrounding area or the residential amenity of adjoining occupiers.*

<http://www.welhat.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=573&p=0>

and

<http://www.welhat.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=909&p=0>

It is patently obvious that the proposed extension completely fails to meet these stipulations. Hence, the application should be rejected on these grounds alone.

2 Failure of the Council to adhere to the requirements of the Welwyn Garden City Management Scheme would have adverse consequences including

1. Bring the Council into disrepute
2. Undermine the Management Scheme that the Council is supposed to champion and for which it should act as guardian.
3. Increase the risk of people choosing to ignore the scheme on the basis that what is good enough for the Council must be good enough for citizens.
4. As a result gradual deterioration of unique character of WGC.
5. Costs to Council – ultimately paid for by citizens in council tax – from legal challenge.

3 Whatever else there is now a somewhat clichéd phrase something like “A carbuncle on the face of an old friend”, which I believe is attributed to the heir to the throne. It is regrettable that the amended proposed extension would be an exemplar of this type of carbuncle.

4 We fully support the idea of locating staff at one site etc. We would just ask that it is done in a way that meets planning requirements and meets the policies of the Welwyn Garden City Management Scheme.

Although, it would not be a reason for objection we would wish to express our disappointment at the Council's approach in this matter. It is patently obvious that the amended plan is incompatible with the requirements of the Welwyn Garden City Management scheme. Hence, any suggestion that the amended submission is a genuine attempt to address concerns is risible. It is likely that

the amended plan will be taken to be a cynical attempt to put forward equally unacceptable plans so as make it difficult for citizens by forcing them have to find yet more time to issue objections again when the issues have not changed one iota. This is behaviour that might be expected from shareholder profit driven corporations but it is not appropriate for the Council to behave in such a manner when surely it is supposed to act a guardian of the Welwyn Garden City Management Scheme.

Mrs Cheryl Baker  
Dr Paul Baker

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CC By email  
Chief Executive WHC  
Councillors Handside Ward

Welwyn Garden City Society (to forward)