
From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 16 April 2021 21:34

To: Clare Howe <c.howe@welhat.gov.uk>

Subject: Broadwater Road development

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Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing in order to submit my objection to the current plans for the Broadwater Road development. My objections are as follows:

1. The development is not in keeping with the spirit of Ebenezer Howard's Garden City project. The centenary of which was proudly celebrated last year by Welwyn Hatfield District Council.
2. The buildings planned are far too high and above the council's own recommended limit of 5 storeys. Indeed, the silos are/were a major landmark and significant part of WGC's history, as reflected in their listed building status. It is disappointing that the development has sidelined these and dwarfed them by high rise buildings. If the council is proud of this heritage, then why aren't the remaining buildings given more prominence?
3. The development does not provide sufficient green space and does not provide the prospective residents of this development with important outdoor space. As the recent lockdowns have shown, access to outdoor space has significant benefits to our wellbeing.
4. Continuing from point 3 - with no access to outside space it is a fair assumption to make that residents would want to get in their cars in order to access green space. Given the high concentration of accommodation planned, can the local area cope with such a large intake of traffic? Is this keeping with the 'climate emergency' which the government declared in May 2019 (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-48126677>)
5. Does this development offer any benefits to the wider community? Plans for a leisure centre, shops or other amenities I understand have been scrapped in order to increase the

number of dwellings? This could potentially isolate the development's prospective residents from the wider community. There would be no reason to visit, unless you were a resident therefore encouraging a separate community. This does not suggest a progressive way of building an inclusive and harmonious garden city.

6. Is it the expectation that the accommodation will be filled by commuters working in the London area? The pandemic has shown that we no longer need to commute and indeed the trend is that office space is moving out of London - Central Government departments and the BBC to name 2 large employers who are relocating out of the capital.

8. If this is just for commuters, it could be argued that it could create dead' space. If a family were to live here where is their recourse to a GP, school, play groups or even a play ground? What childhood would this development provide?

I hope you are able to take these comments forward to the planning committee. Thank you.

Kind regards,


76 Pearson Avenue, Hertford

*3rd generation born and grew up in WGC, my grandparents were one of the first residents to move to WGC.