
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 August 2021 21:43
To: Planning <planning@welhat.gov.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Objection to high rised flats on Broadwater Road Ref 6/2020/3420/MAJ

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Dear Sir

Further to the proposals to have nine story residential buildings in Welwyn Garden City I object on many grounds:

The character of the GARDEN City is not suited to facilitating high rised blocks.

The City was designed with the intent for every resident to have a garden/allotment which flats do not incorporate.

The increased traffic generated by the extra residents is most unwelcome given the main road is very busy.

There does not seem to be adequate parking for the residents of the new blocks.

Having the blocks so high would set a dangerous president for the town.

More alarming is the determination of the Council to obey the Draconian insistence on ever more urbanization when the population of Hertfordshire is reaching a plateau. Consider the following:

Welwyn Garden City was founded in 1920 and was largely complete a decade later comprising about 3km² in area. By the start of WWII the town had added another square kilometer. The urban development of the 1950s absorbed much of the designated agricultural belt around the original perimeter which by the early 1970s helped the town to grown to be 7km². Around 2010 the town's population surpassed 50,000 residents, was 12km² and so four times the initial planned size. What is planned to be built by

about 2030 is another town the size of the original one making 15km² plus numerous high-rise blocks of 1970s style flats. That is just part of a plan to build 16,000 homes in the Borough to meet the minimum stipulation of new homes enforced by a Habitat-like Inspector appointed by government. There is to be an average of 1000 homes built per year which is a rise of dwellings by approximately 2% per year! However, the growth rate of the Borough over the last 30 years averages 1000 people per year accounting for a rise of only 1% of the population. So the Borough is building too many houses even though the population is leveled off. The expansion was mainly due to the ever increasing student population primarily at Hatfield University, although they do not live in the new homes being built. The expansion of Welwyn Garden City going east is such that the gap to Hertford is only staved off by a decent sized park which was many decades late in facilitating public access. A park also ensures a break in the urban sprawl going south to Hatfield. In the west the gap to St Albans is narrowing and in the north the village of Digsweil has been consumed. This example is indicative of what is happening all over the world whether the population is increasing or not.

Regards

, resident of Welwyn Garden City

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