

Campus West Carpark Objection

I write to object to the ludicrous car park the Council propose building at Campus West. It has not been thought through properly and there is absolutely no evidence presented in the documents to back up the need for it. Closing one car park that is under utilised does not warrant building another one. Where is the up to date study supporting the need for a further car park.

Building another car deck at Campus West is too far away from the station and the shops for people to use it. Its only real purpose is to provide free car parking for the 400 employees who have parking permits given to them by the Council.

The amount of money, over £2m, that the car park will have cost when it is built does not justify the 156 additional spaces.

If a car park is really necessary then build an upper deck at Cherry Trees car park or build a multi-storey car park on Campus East next to the railway line, not ruin the vista of the Ayot Greenway.

With regards to the design of the car park, it is cheap and made of steel and cladding that will not blend in with the surrounding leafy conservation area. It is an ugly design and therefore contrary to policy in a Conservation Area where buildings need to enhance the area.

No regard has been given whatsoever to the residents adjacent to the northern elevation of the car park. Noise, fumes and light pollution will definitely affect the lives of the neighbours but no mitigation is in place. There is no sound deadening as promised by Rachel Walsh. Numerous street lamps will spread the light on the deck and should be replaced by bollard lights and lighting in the walls of the car park. The northern elevation should be a solid wall not flimsy fins.

Security at the car park as proposed is inadequate. There needs to be a barrier and it should be closed between 11am and 7am. Skateboarders and antisocial behaviour will increase because the youths have somewhere to go out of the rain and there is a ramp to play on.

It is time the Council listened to the residents. We don't need and don't want another deck on Campus West.