

Subject: Appropriation Of Land Kennedy Park

To Mr StevenQuayl Date 5/1/2010

C C Jill Bell

I would like to make an objection on behalf of the 3 **IBR** councilors to the proposed appropriation of land at Kennedy Park for the council to make it available to build on. I have no definitive criteria as a format to object and the council does not appear to have a written form to fill in so I am doing this off the cuff.

The following question was asked at Wentworth Avenue Shops in December 2009.

**Do you want the shops moved to Kennedy Park? Yes or No.**

The result was: **90 Yes 858 No.**

We have informed the council of this result and they appear to have disregarded these responses. These responses are in my possession. The council has no rights to ignore this questionnaire and we will be seeking guidance on this.

The basis of my objection is as follows.

**Older Residents.**

A lot of our **older residents** live in close proximity to the shops located centrally in Wentworth Avenue, if the shops are moved then they will have to travel another **300 meters** to the new shops in Kennedy Park and **300 meters back to existing shops**. Try this with a Zimmer frame

**Long term viability:**

Utilizing formulas used by architects regarding convenience shops, the client base of the shops in Wentworth Avenue is approx 9000 if the shops are moved to Kennedy Park this figure drops to approx 6000 clients. Within these boundaries there are approximately 2400 dwellings using the electoral register as a basis to calculate? The shopkeepers see this possible reduction of clientele as a recipe for the shops to become less viable and some of the proposed new shops would have to close down.

**Safety**

The idea of moving the shops to Kennedy Park is so the residents on Northboro will frequent the shops thus increasing the client base and giving access to people from Northboro.

What they are advocating is an illuminated pedestrian path through the middle of Kennedy Park from the new shops to Northboro. This stretch of path is over 200 meters long across open scrub and parkland. Even though the path is illuminated and will probably have CCTV cameras covering it, it is a muggers paradise so who would feel safe using it. Particularly during the hours of darkness (winter 4 o'clock onwards) if you are on the path outside of the 10 yards illumination either side it will be pitch black,

anyone could be lurking there and you will not see them. I suspect that the people of Northboro will use their existing outlets and not put themselves in danger. The Labour party and councils proposed 1<sup>st</sup> priority is safety; this scheme is flawed thinking where safety is concerned. I suggest they speak to the police regarding this issue.

### **Contaminated Land**

If councils take open land (Kennedy Park) for development then they have to replace it with the same footprint. They are in the process of negotiating with Slough Estates for their Contaminated Land by the side of Kennedy Park to replace the land appropriated for the shops and housing..

Two years ago Slough Estates employed a consultant to look into building on land adjacent to Kennedy Park; about nine months ago they called it off because it would be too expensive to remove the contamination to enable building houses on it. This is the land the council is going to replace Kennedy Park open area with for our children and residents to use. Look at the state of health of the Britwell Estate residents.

### **Use of existing land**

This section of land is used daily by youths using the skateboard Ramp. This summer at one time I counted over 70 youths there. I see children using the permanent small sided goalpost for football and other pastimes. I see recreation for our residents in the form of running walking and exercising their dogs. Over the years the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts used the area outside of their facilities. When the Playcentre was there the part of park in question was used daily until Dusk. It is a fallacy that it is not used, however if the council had not deliberately or unknowingly allowed the park to be run down then this part of the park would still be a better asset to the Britwell Estate.

I would appreciate if either of you would call me to say you have received this e-mail, or e-mail me back on [REDACTED]  
My mobile number is [REDACTED]  
Home [REDACTED]

Kind Regards  
Councilor Pat Shine  
Councilor Sean Wright  
Councilor John Finn