

Dear Council and Cllrs

Please take this email as my formal objection to the appropriation and disposal of the land adjacent to the former Fire Station on Arrowe Park Road, Upton. (As detailed in the application referenced above)

The land in question is a dedicated public open green space with a Public right of way which is used by families when accessing Upton Village and the neighbouring housing estate. This is a popular route for children and workers when commuting to and from school and work.

I am astounded that the Council continue with plans to decimate our previous public open green space after they have declared an environmental emergency. This is against some of the Council's own plans and ambitions and is just another example of putting profits before people whilst failing to achieve and deliver on its very own commitments.

The village does not need another supermarket. Think of the implications this will have on the independent village traders, those very ones you supported and celebrated as 'High Street Heroes' earlier this year for their support and dedication to local communities during the pandemic. This will lead to more independent shops closing in the village, lost jobs as the village continues to be eroded. The Council have a moral responsibility and duty to stop this from happening.

The site is situated on one of (if not the) busiest roundabouts in the borough. The congestion that is already in place with motorists trying to access Sainsbury's and even simply pass through is a real challenge that the authority need to address as a matter of urgency.

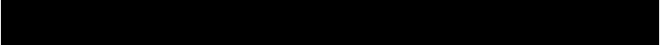
Another supermarket so close will only add to this problem, further complicating the junction and the roundabout adding to congestion and queuing; flooding the air with toxic fumes, polluting the lungs of those who live and work nearby. That is not to mention the impact the additional traffic will have on the access route for all three emergency services; ambulances accessing the hospital, mobilising police cars from the local station and adding complexities and minutes to travel time for fire engines to and from the recently relocated fire station. All of this ultimately has potential to cause harm to life in the broader context. Just think about that.

I am disappointed, that yet again the Council fail to act in an open and transparent way, sneaking another 'invisible' so called 'public' consultation under the radar. If you welcomed true consultation from members of the borough this wouldn't be one of the best kept secrets nor would it be shared so late in the day almost as an after thought; after the deal is done. It's sickening really.

I am disappointed to see this online so late when the preemptive work on the former fire station site is already under way.

I think it is worthwhile mentioning as part of my objection; I am not alone you will see from the online petition there are over 947 signatures on the online petition and I would urge the Council and ward Councillors to take note of the 'strength of feeling' from local people, your constituents and more importantly the Councils stakeholders.

I call on my three ward councillors to confirm the timescales and process that has been undertaken by Wirral Council as part of this consultation process so we can be satisfied that the Council is meeting its statutory obligations and acting in good faith in an open and transparent manner.

 I can count on you to support me and the other 947+ people who have made their view clear too.

Please feel free to contact me if you need to seek any clarification.

Regards