

I strongly object the sale of the wooded area adjacent to the Old Fire Station and to the creation of a supermarket and a car park.

We are in the middle of a climate emergency which the Council has itself declared to be a priority.

We must not reduce the number of green spaces as these alone are mitigating climate change. We need to preserve existing ones and create new ones. The argument that WBC is committed to planting new trees does not hold as these new trees are not mature. We must keep our mature trees which are also providing a habitat for wildlife.

Another reason for objecting is that if this project goes ahead the footpath will be moved to a location closer to the road. At the same time as traffic flow would be increased due to the presence of the proposed supermarket.

The tragic death of Ella Kissi-Debrah must be a warning that we must not expose people and especially children, to traffic fumes.

The extra traffic generated by this development would increase pollution levels in general, not just by the footpath.

Moreover the sale of the land is a likely contravention of Section 10 of the open spaces act of 1906.

The creation of a new Lidl in this location is also likely to damage local business and this will have a negative effect on the community.

Please do not go ahead with this damaging project.

Thank you.