

Dear Sir or Madam,

I wrote to you a few days ago to express my profound objection to the above proposed development.

A couple of hours ago there popped through my letterbox a leaflet from the Council entitled “Future Enfield” and which is about the Council’s housing plans. More specifically it addresses the Council’s objectives in this area. It is very clear from reading this document that the proposed development in Hadley Wood runs counter to these stated objectives in a number of areas:

- The covering letter from the Leader of the Council states that one of the objectives is to build more affordable homes. As this proposal is for a site with minimal public transport and away from most amenities, ownership of a car (or more realistically more than one car) will be almost essential for each household. So how can the extra cost of owning these vehicles make homes more affordable?
- The leaflet also refers to the Council’s commitment to being carbon neutral. Self- evidently, the requirement for extra vehicles runs totally counter to this objective.
- The same covering letter in the leaflet refers to the protection of green spaces. Can anyone identify a more beautiful green space than the proposed site?
- The leaflet speaks about the need to “[protect]... our rich network of biodiversity” and also to “enhance local wildlife”. The proposed site is a remnant of Enfield Chase. As such it has evolved over the centuries into a particularly rich habitat for both flora and fauna. Hence the proposal is totally at odds with this Council objective.
- The leaflet suggests that the Council wants housing development to go hand in hand with, to quote “... new infrastructure in the form of schools, sustainable transport, health and other community facilities...”. As the proposed plan contains no proposals for any of these facilities, it clearly runs counter to the Council’s objectives and just adds to the pressure on existing amenities.
- The leaflet refers to the Council’s plans to “protect the unique heritage of our borough”. The proposed site is overlooked by two conservation area, is part of the Hornbeam Hill Area of Special Character and is adjacent to Grade II listed buildings. How then does this proposal protect these assets?
- The leaflet refers to the Council’s current investment of £1bn in new homes and then goes on to talk about 10,000 new homes at Meridian Water. Patently building new homes in these volumes is more cost efficient – both in terms of building the houses themselves but also in developing the associated infrastructure – than building the 160 houses in the proposed plan. Bearing in mind that Enfield Council does not exactly have money to burn, it is clearly a poor use of its resources to build on sites such as in this proposal

There are, of course, many other reasons to object to this proposed development. However, I have limited myself in this email to those items that are very specifically contrary to the Council’s plans as described in the leaflet that I have just received.

