
I wish to object to the proposal on page 380 of the draft local plan (Enfield Local Plan (ELP): 2019-2039). In my opinion, the proposal to provide a new crematorium on the land presently designated as Firs Farm Recreation Ground has many flaws.

The site is between the major road, the A10, and the playing fields of Winchmore School, which are next to a cricket ground. Firs Farm primary school is a short walk to the south. The emissions from the crematorium would make the area even more polluted than at present. The fumes from the NLWA incinerator, some 1.5 miles to the south east, combined with traffic fumes from the major road already blight the area.

The crematorium and its accompanying car park would also involve the removal of three sports pitches, depriving the community of this popular resource.

Firs Farm has been much enhanced as a leisure area by the wetlands development on the north of the Firs Farm site. Edmonton cemetery lies just north of the wetlands and locals have been saying that if this proposal goes ahead, there might be pressure to fill in the wetlands again and join up the cemetery site with the proposed crematorium, thus depriving the people of Enfield of a much loved and well used wildlife refuge and green space. The wetlands were created as a wildlife refuge, but also partly in order to protect against flooding and use vegetation to clean the water course. Therefore filling in the area to expand the cemetery could bring back again the risk of inundation and boggy areas.

On all these grounds, I urge councillors to reject this proposal and remove it from the local plan.
Josepha Scotney

