
Sites SA59 (Firs Farm Recreation Ground) & SA61 (Church Street Recreation Ground), pages 380 and 382 respectfully

I note, sites SA59 and SA61 are designated for a part change of use to provide space for a crematorium. I object to the proposed change of use across both sites on the grounds that these recreation spaces provide an important contribution to public health, well-being and exercise. The new proposed crematorium use would reduce these beneficial uses in areas that are well used by local residents and visitors to the area. Reduced access to exercise will likely lead to unhealthier lifestyles for people which will impact negatively with more pressure and resources being added to the NHS and Council support services.

The proposed uses would be in contrary to Policy DM CL5 (page 280) as the proposal would result in the loss of land associated with sport and recreation that are heavily used and are not surplus to requirements. There is also no clear evidence that the extent of these beneficial uses are able to be re-provided on the equivalent scale locally.

The harm to Firs Farm wetlands is very concerning as the proposed crematorium will take away space from and compromise the surrounding delicate needs of wildlife and wetland habitat. Further noise and air pollution will be added to both locations through the attraction of more vehicular journeys and from creating a brownfield use within a green space that should be protected, not reduced or impacted.

It is important to note, the pathway around this part of Firs Farm wetlands is a 1-mile radius. I regularly run around the wetlands at least once a week and when doing so, see that this path is used by walkers, people walking dogs, families with children, elderly, cyclists and runners. This regular shape of Firms Farm and accompanying pathway of 1 mile encourages exercise and has become a target for many to complete a mile or more successive in laps. For example, many users' complete laps with the intention of achieving 3 miles (5k) and 6 miles (10k). This space has been used by me and members of my local Edmonton Running Club to practice for such races and even for London Marathon training. This route is therefore sensitive and is documented on the Strava software app. Any reduced access or alteration will therefore bring harm both to myself and to other users. My running club, namely Edmonton Running Club, of 100 members regular uses these running routes for instance.

In summary, both sites are very popular and regularly used by the public and I strongly objective to the proposed new uses for these sites as currently noted in the draft local

plan. The Council should look for different more under-utilised spaces, ideally brownfield land, if there is a proven need for a further crematorium to be built in Enfield. For instance, can the existing crematoriums not be expanded as there are two locally already in situ?