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7 September, 2021

Dear Sirs,

I write regarding the proposal in the Enfield Council's Draft Local Plan regarding the building of a Crematorium on The Horsemead, (the three fields stretching from Firs Lane to The Great Cambridge Road), which they are apparently now referring to as Firs Farm Recreation Ground. It is not. It is Common Land and cannot be built on, I believe, without its status being altered by an Act of Parliament. The Council do not own the land, and any of the locals may have access to it. Horses have been grazed upon it within my recollection.

Firs Farm School was not built upon common land, but upon farmland. The area occupied by the recent water-feature was originally farmland as well, though it was acquired by the military during the War for the siting of searchlights and anti-aircraft guns. The area opposite on the other side of Firs Lane abutting on Farm Road, where another school has now been sited, was also Farmland.

The Horsemead, which still retains its ancient hedgerows, was unfortunately vandalised by the Council in the 1960s by the filling-in of the brooks along which they ran. It became *Wetland* only as a consequence of this, and a good deal of wild-life was lost as a result - sticklebacks, crane flies, frogs, toads, water-boatmen, and even some butterflies such as the threatened Red Admiral are simply not seen there any more.

It puzzles me how little so many of our local Councillors seem to know about the area they represent...or don't they care? If a *Crematorium* involves *cremation* it will help very little with our global warming!

Yours sincerely,