

Dear Sir

I am writing to let you know that I object to Enfield Council's plans for Whitewebbs Park.

SA62 page 383 and SP CL4 pages 277-279

I am a regular user of Whitewebbs Park and I know how important it is to this community. I would be interested to know how many people on the Council who are making decisions on our behalf have been there to see what a beautiful open space it is and the huge physical and mental benefits it provides including clean air, exercise, relaxation, quiet reflection and social interaction.

I feel strongly that Enfield Council does not have the right to transfer any part of Whitewebbs Park – a public park – into private management. I simply cannot comprehend how this can even be considered. A public park exists to offer a benefit to the people of Enfield– and no part of it should be leased out because that would mean that the people of Enfield would lose access to parts of it whilst someone else profits from it. A public park is not for private profit.

I understand that the original 999 year lease specified public access for the whole of the park and, if this lease has been changed then the people of Enfield should be told that this is the case, also when it was changed and by whom.

There has been no proper consultation with community and stakeholder groups regarding Whitewebbs Park. Enfield Council, please engage with us so that together we can come up with a plan that for the future of the Park that will benefit our community.

The plan to lease part of it out to Tottenham Hotspur makes no sense at all for the people of Enfield. This would be nothing more than a commercial investment and the costs to the people of Enfield of such an investment would be enormous.

Our golf course was enjoyed by people of all ages and incomes and the case put forward by Enfield Council for not reopening it was inaccurate and dishonest as it turns out that the other golf courses that were cited as being available for our use are included in the housing development plans so these other golf courses too would disappear. Whether it is a golf course or not, the land itself is hugely important for wildlife. Covering any part of it with artificial football pitches would be disastrous.

We are facing a climate emergency and preserving established green spaces such as Whitewebbs Park is now more important than ever. It is hugely varied and its complex biodiversity has accumulated over hundreds of years. As well as contributing to improving air quality, carbon storage, reducing temperatures and reducing the risks of flooding, it is also important for pollination and food production. It can help reverse species extinction and tackle climate change.

Due to its position it is important for being the lungs of Enfield as it acts as a buffer between the town and the M25, providing many benefits which we cannot afford to lose. If mature trees are removed and the ground concreted over all of those benefits will be gone for good. The environmental impact of that loss of biodiversity will be huge. I simply cannot understand how turning 40 acres of grassland into artificial football pitches will contribute to the environmental diversity. It will result in tonnes of microplastic being lost each year and ending up in the environment. This is extremely concerning. No part of this plan is climate friendly.

Yours faithfully

Carole Jones
13 Rosewood Drive
Enfield
EN2 9BT