From: Jim Dwyer

Sent: 23 May 2022 14:40

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: S62A/22/0000002 - Former Friends' School, Mount Pleasant Rd, Saffron Walden CB11 3EB

Re: S62A/22/0000002 – Former Friends' School, Mount Pleasant Road, Saffron Walden CB11 3EB

My comments on the above Planning Application are as follows:

This land and playing fields were gifted to the residents of Saffron Walden and therefore a Public Hearing must be held so that all local residents (i.e. those people who will be affected the most) can express their views on the project and get clarification on the vaguer points.

There are already many new homes being built on the outskirts of Saffron Walden so the town is expanding, but building 96 residential properties in the centre of town will not only destroy the character of this lovely old market town but, with no apparent thought given to the necessary infrastructure, will congest already overcrowded streets, especially during peak periods, and doctors surgeries, who already have too many patients to be able to offer a satisfactory health service. Saffron Walden will also lose many of its visitors and tourists each year.

Our property in Greenways backs onto the playing fields with many beautiful old trees bordering our back fence – the trees must be kept and the playing fields must be retained as playing fields, the town's green areas are sadly decreasing rapidly. Our very real concern is that Chase Homes will find a way of circumnavigating the building restrictions on these playing fields, which are also home to many species of wildlife in the wooded area: Muntjac, pheasants etc.

Whilst not appertaining to the current plan, an earlier plan for this project proposed a foot path/cycle path leading from the playing fields into Greenways. Greenways is a small and narrow cul-de-sac and we (the residents of Greenways) fear that this will encourage motorists to park in Greenways (to use the path) and will also become a big security risk to Greenways residents. We would strongly reject any future proposal that included this path.

Regards – James Dwyer