

From: Sheila Rush [REDACTED]
Sent on: Saturday, May 7, 2022 7:21:08 PM
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: S62A/22/0000002 Former Friends' School, Mount Pleasant Rd, Saffron Walden
CB11 3EB

Dear Planning Inspector

I am a local resident and would like to make the following comments on this application .

I welcome the fact that the development has “an abundance of pedestrian routes through the site that will allow residents to pass freely throughout.” However, it appears that the pedestrian routes through the site are not for the general public. Indeed, the developer only seems to consider walking from the perspective of the residents, not from the perspective of the wider local community.

I am surprised by this omission as the developer acknowledges: “The underlying purpose for design quality and the quality of new development at all scales is to create well-designed and well-built places that benefit people and communities. This includes people who use a place for various purposes such as... those who pass through.”

In addition, the developer’s Travel Plan references the National Planning Policy Framework, which clearly states that “developments should be located and designed where practical to give priority first to pedestrian and cycle movements, both within the scheme and with neighbouring areas”, and the Essex Transport Strategy, states that one of the main desired outcomes is “to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and improve air quality through lifestyle changes, innovation and technology.”

The addition of public pedestrian routes through this site will allow local residents to the North East of the development to get to the Tesco Express on Debden Road and the open countryside just beyond, without having to walk along an already busy and polluted main road (which will only become more so with this development). Without this pedestrian access, local residents will continue to drive instead of walk.

I urge you to ensure that this important development is made permeable for pedestrians, thereby improving health and reducing carbon emissions.

S Rush