

Comments for Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

Application Summary

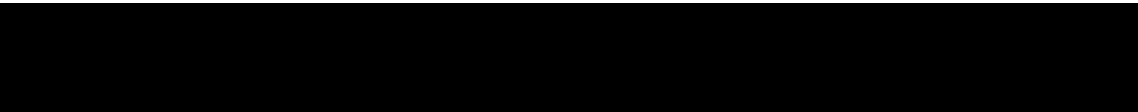
Application Number: TP/ED/26/0104

Address: Whitegates Park Middlemuir Road Lenzie East Dunbartonshire

Proposal: Erection of a secondary school including road access, landscaping, car parking, sports pitches, recreational areas and associated development.

Case Officer: Fraser McNair

Customer Details



Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I formally object to this proposal as Whitegates Park is a much needed green lung and protected open space in a very busy built up area. The council's own planning service stated in their March 2021 appraisal that the "open space strategy identifies the site as a neighbourhood park of good multifunctional quality." It goes on to say that "Whitegates Park is one of only 2 neighbourhood parks within Lenzie, and a loss of open space within the settlement of Lenzie is not considered viable given the existing pressure for provision and loss of community amenity. Additionally, the loss of a neighbourhood park of this standard and potential would not be acceptable in planning policy terms."

Whitegates Park is an established eco system and a much needed sanctuary in this area. It contains peat to a depth of 4.1m below ground level, the destruction of peat does not comply with local or national policy. The McLaughlin & Harvey feasibility study June 2022, states WGP contains extensive habitat for water vole, water vole habitat is fully protected in Scotland. It also states "numerous mature trees will be felled and cannot be replaced." The mitigation plan at Myrtle cannot compensate for a thriving ecosystem which is a green network node and a crucial component linking into 2 conservation sites, its loss will fragment a critical wildlife corridor which cannot be replaced once destroyed.

We have a chance to teach our children that these areas shouldn't be destroyed for our convenience, East Dunbartonshire Council itself has agreed to "protect and enhance" the nature network of which Whitegates Park is a vital part. March 21 Appraisal states: "Given the allocation of the site for open space of neighbourhood importance, its current use and limited capacity for loss of such allocations within Lenzie, as well as significant potential for ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT resulting from disturbance of peat, such a change of use at this location would NOT BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE."