

Our reference: COM517184346

Application number: 2023/0866

Application address: St Georges Hill Lawn Tennis Club Warreners Lane Weybridge Surrey KT13 0LL

Name: Mrs Hiscox

Address: 63 Ellesmere Road, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 0HW

Comment type: You object to the planning application

Date of comment: 18 May 2023

Comment: I object to the application based on these key areas:

Building

The proposed buildings are large and unsightly, are not in keeping with original buildings on site and are more in line with a commercial site rather than the surrounding residential area. There are other areas within the site, as can be seen from Google Maps that are not right up against the boundary and would reduce the impact of what appears to be overdevelopment of this end of the site.

Noise & Light

The noise and light pollution from the Tennis club is already intrusive at times, especially since the removal of large native hedgerows and trees that acted as a barrier between the wider local residents and the St Georges Hill Estate over the last 10 years. There is a high possibility of an increase in number of club members because of the new sport facilities will attract new participants, also increasing traffic noise. Therefore, it is wrong to base noise & light levels on current rather than the expected increase as a result of this development.

Padel Tennis is a much louder game than Lawn Tennis, (solid bats, player vocalisation etc) is played all year around and the length of time that it is proposed that the courts will be in use is all-day everyday going on late into the evening,

Natural environment

The Ecological Appraisal report states that its findings are based on "a snapshot to record any flora or fauna present at the time of the survey". As Bats are often seen in flight during the summer evenings and grass snakes & slow worms are prevalent in the area, are protected species, I believe that this has been taken into account and therefore the Ecological Appraisal should be undertaken at other periods during the year before any decision is made. It should be noted as again stated that the development site is alongside an SSSI Impact risk zone, and I object to development as it will be detrimental to the biodiversity of the area. Government climate change/ mitigation includes increasing and keeping established tree and other low value cover within local communities not reducing it. Mature native Trees support approx. 1800 species and therefore are an important biodiversity source which planting new trees does not substitute for.

Miscellaneous

I live in one of the houses closest to the top of Ellesmere Road, where many residents were unaware of the application notice as it would have been posted inside the Private Estate to which they do not have access. Thus, the deadline to object would have been / is easily missed, without giving them the opportunity to object to this planning application that will have an impact on their environment. I do not think that this is a fair and just process.