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I object most strongly to the desecration of Thanington Rec with an unnecessary Park and Ride. Why? I grew up in Wincheap in the late 60s, 1970s and early 80s where every green space had a No Ball Games sign and sought sport and solace with my friends at Thanington Rec. I've seen the Allotments by the river and adjacent to Bretts playing field built over, I've seen the fields at the back of Thanington built over, and now you want to hem in the estate with concrete and tarmac by building over the Rec. with a Park and Ride which is far larger than the existing one which is never full, even at Christmas. I drive/ride past several times a week and there are rarely fewer than 300 spaces available. This is unconscionable. The new wildlife using the field, such as Crows, and recently a pair of Red Kites shows that balance is finally being achieved, with the innumerable dog walkers, young people, and sports enthusiasts that also use the green space. The council should be ashamed to even propose this again. Look at the flags on the estate and ask yourselves what voting patterns are likely to be should CCC take away such a valuable local resource. I lived in Wincheap as a youth, and have worked in Wincheap and Thanington as a Youth Worker for more than 30 years and seen some ridiculous ideas in my time but the plans for Wincheap, another off ramp at Thanington, and the removal of a much used and love green space are ill considered at best. Upcoming by-election? You're gonna have to move fast... Don't do it CCC, you know it doesn't make sense, as easy and cost effective as it might seem to you in a committee, have a heart.

Regards,

Gareth Boiling
[REDACTED]