

Helen O'Connor

From: Mel Dawkins [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 October 2025 12:40
To: Consultations
Subject: Fw: Objection to the draft Canterbury plan to use Thanington Recreation ground as an extra park and ride car park.
Attachments: Thanington Recreation Ground Objection 9 October 2025.docx

--Email From External Account--

Forwarding on

Cllr Mel Dawkins
Councillor for St Stephens.
Cabinet member for Environment and Climate Change
<https://www.facebook.com/meldawkinscouncillor/>
<https://www.instagram.com/melcanterburycitysouth/>
<https://bsky.app/profile/meldawkins.bsky.social>
<https://meldawkins.org/>

From: Ray Allard [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 October 2025 16:09
Subject: Objection to the draft Canterbury plan to use Thanington Recreation ground as an extra park and ride car park.

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Dear Sir or Madam,

9 October 2025

I strongly object to the proposal to use Thanington Recreation ground as a new park and ride facility catering for 900 vehicles because of the unacceptable effect it will have on the vicinity.

I have lived in Thanington for over 40 years, quite close to the Thanington Recreation ground and Resource centre.

I have looked at your draft proposal to use Thanington Recreation ground as a new park and ride facility catering for 900 vehicles, particularly when the use of the existing one only appears to be 60% utilised and the possible highway changes will only take up 100 spaces.

I strongly object to this proposal which should be rejected because of:

- Unacceptable increased traffic to the area which is already busy.
- No realistic plan for egress/exit has even been shown or considered on the plan.
- Cost- why build 900 spaces when only 100 will be potentially lost in this vicinity.
- Irreversible harm done to the environment and wildlife.
- Impact on the adjacent Great Stour River and river bank
- The impact on the use of Thanington Resource building itself

- The impact on the use of the adjoining children's play area
- Importantly the loss of public amenity space which is used by many people, not just for football.
- The effect on both mental and physical wellbeing of residents who use it.
- The land was purchased to be used for recreation and sports nearly 100 years ago - not for future parking and tarmacking.

Such a loss of public amenity green space is totally unacceptable, especially in an area such as Thanington, which has grown recently in resident numbers with the new housing estates i.e Saxon Fields development.

This potential loss of green space will be for all time, not just for now- thus denying future generations of families from the positive benefits of having this space and resource available to them.

If you vote in favour of this draft plan then I cannot believe that you place any value on the wellbeing of local residents, and the enormous benefits that this space provides. You not are elected to run rough shod over years of established facilities of the City of Canterbury but to care for your residents and their future.

PLEASE vote against this draft plan proposal.

Thank you

RJ Allard