

Helen O'Connor

From: Leo Whitlock
Sent: 11 October 2025 15:32
To: Consultations
Subject: Fw: Canterbury local plan concerns re Thanington Rec

From: Jean Butcher [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2025 9:58:20 AM
To: Leo Whitlock [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Canterbury local plan concerns re Thanington Rec

--Email From External Account--

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Jane Warner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 10:01:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Canterbury local plan concerns re Thanington Rec

--Email From External Account--

Good morning,

I would like to express my sincere concern regarding the council plans to move the Wincheap Park & Ride onto the Thanington Rec site.
A much - valued and necessary open green space which is used regularly by local residents as well as local people in the wider Canterbury district, including providing services and clubs much needed space to serve locals.
This is also reflected in the use of the Thanington Resource Centre, who serve the local community and wider area, providing vital communication and services to the multi generational, diverse and cultural local population. Some of whom have already experienced other local venues being closed under prior 'local plan' proposals which have not even been enacted upon, such as those in Cow Lane.

I'm perplexed that an open green space is even being considered for car parking and is in direct contradiction of the local plan, which states that open green space is to be protected.

This is the last green space in the Thanington area for locals to use, who have already seen open fields developed directly behind the estate, as well as the houses developed in the Homersham road area.

The area behind the Rec is a public footpath along the river stour and not an open green space which is usable for the services and space currently available at the Rec.

In previous local plans a southbound slip road and a Park & Ride was considered at Harbledown as the desired location to stop the flow of traffic down onto the Rheims Way, however it is unclear why this was not and is not being considered again?

I also am unable to understand why consideration is being given to not have a slip road on/off for any new houses being built at 'Merton Park' (N1) when I imagine that they are being considered for this site due to the close proximity to the A2!

I have never yet met a local person or visitor to Canterbury, who does not agree that the Wincheap Park & Ride is too close to the city and is scandalously under used because of this. It is within walking distance of the city centre!

Moving it to the other side of the A2 is NOT going to change this and will be a disgraceful waste of public money.

If the council were to research almost every other town or city in the UK they would know that the majority of Park & Rides are situated miles outside of the city with at least a half an hour or more bus ride into the centre. Cambridge, Norwich, Maidstone, Edinburgh to name a few!

If the council are insisting on the Park & Ride staying in the same vicinity, then why can it not be reviewed for a logical solution, such as:

B&M Bargains to move into the now empty unit in Perch Road, which housed Hobby Craft.

The B&M land to be made available for the slip road into the existing infrastructure, retaining the majority of the existing Park & Ride.

All slip roads and construction work to be paid for by the housing developers and not at the expense of stripping vital green space from locals.

Thanington and Wincheap have already undergone significant housing developments and this new local plan , which has basically 'saved Blean' is disproportionate for the local area.

We have undergone a significant increase in traffic along the Ashford Road already due to Saxon Fields and the northbound slip road and extra traffic lights that have been installed because of this. In fact, it is fair to say that the prior Wincheap static traffic has now 'moved' to Ashford Road and it is not clear that any consideration or testing has been completed regarding air quality due to this.

Residents have certainly NOT been informed of any testing results.

Moving the Park & Ride to the Thanington Rec will have further adverse effects on the levels of static traffic along our road, creating potentially serious health implications for all residents.

Please review this decision in favour of local people and not just the pockets of housing developers.

Kind regards

Jane Warner





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Leo Whitlock

Head of Policy and Communications
Strategy and Improvement



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