
Thanington recreation ground.

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I write to add a big NO to the council plans to use the recreation ground for another park and ride site .

When I first came to Canterbury to marry in the early 1960's, Brett's was still in Wincheap/Thanington and they had a Pavilion and sports ground and many functions they were involved in, the residents of Thanington estate were welcome to see and sometimes take part. Brett's left and so did the sports ground they had and the locals lost out to another green space. The other green space on the estate was a square of green on the corner of Alfred Close and Godwin Road - that piece of green was also taken away from the community and 4 houses were built on it. Now the only green facility left to the community is the Recreation ground which is well used by football meetings , functions organised by the Resource Centre, Dog training, dog walkers and citizens who just want to walk on green grass instead of concrete and get exercise away from the smell and noise of traffic.

My children grew up playing on that field and learnt to ride a small motorcycle away from traffic and hard roads under supervision until proficient. Their aunts and uncles also played on that field.

Thanington in the early days was known as Thanington Without and part of that belief was it was outside the city, had fewer services than anywhere else in Canterbury. It seems that only in recent years the "without" has improved a bit and the Resources Centre has done a lot to help that belief . Find somewhere else for park and ride. All the building that is planned for Merton Farm and the continuing building off Cockerling Road, surely a space can be found in those areas. Houses are being built that the ordinary person cannot afford so put a park and ride there instead.

Please listen to the public.

Andrea Marshall

Sent from my iPhone