

COUNCIL – 12 SEPTEMBER 2007

PETITION

(A) Enforcement Action – Little Acres, Ware

A petition has been submitted by Mr D Marley, comprising 63 signatures, supporting the Council's refusal to grant retrospective planning permission and to serve an enforcement notice against Hertford Regional College in respect of car parking on recreational ground. The petition is in the form of 63 individual identical letters reading:

*Dear Neighbour*

*You have probably received a letter from HRC seeking support for their appeal against the refusal of EHDC to grant retrospective planning approval for the use of the tennis court in Little Acres as a 'temporary' car park. Some residents who may be concerned about students parking their cars outside their houses may support HRC. However, those of us nearer to Little Acres feel that the appeal should be rejected and that the original decision of EHDC should stand.*

*Our concerns cover some or all of the following:*

*Loss of sporting facilities contrary to government guidelines*

*Noise associated with car engines, radios and doors*

*Noise and danger of accidents arising from occasional attempts at handbrake turns and 'doughnuts'*

*Controlled access at weekends possibly by Hertford Rugby Club, where might this lead?*

*Poor judgement by HRC in changing the use of the tennis court without seeking planning permission*

*In view of this, can any faith be placed in their statement that the use as a car park will be temporary?*

*In conclusion, the appeal should be rejected.*

(B) CCTV provision at Snowley Parade, Bishop's Stortford

A petition has been submitted by Terrie Archer, on behalf of Parsonage Residents' Association, comprising 649 signatures, as follows:

*We, the undersigned local residents, shopkeepers and customers, urgently petition all relevant authorities to reverse the decision to remove the CCTV camera that overlooks the area in front of the shops at Snowley Parade, Manston Drive, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, which has proved to be an effective deterrent to anti-social and criminal behaviour in the local area.*

Procedure

The lead petitioner is entitled to attend and address Council for up to three minutes. After this, the relevant portfolio holder will respond outlining how the Council intends to deal with the petition. Local Ward Members may also comment although there is no provision for any wider debate by Members.