

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 23 FEBRUARY 2011

PETITION

The following petition, comprising 72 signatures, has been submitted by Mr D Annetts, Vantorts Road, Sawbridgeworth:

We the undersigned do not support the proposals that have been put forward for the development of Vantorts Park. We do not consider that the proposed developments are good value for the scarce resources available or fit in with the nature of the park. In particular having a skate boarding area is unsuitable in this park. It will cause increased noise and also increase the chance of unsocial behaviour occurring. If a skate park is needed then Vantorts Park must be one of the most inappropriate locations being so close to residential property.

Our proposal take into account that Vantorts Park is an enclosed green space surrounded by houses with old and vulnerable people living on the South side. Vantorts Park is difficult to police due to its confined and generally concealed situation. It is important to avoid any development that is likely to increase noise and anti social behaviour. We consider that with the current tight financial climate it is likely that resources to police the park may be reduced in the future. The option that we would like to see developed is as follows:

- 1. Improve the children's play area with the introduction of new equipment.*
- 2. Keep both tennis courts. We know that there is significant demand for publically provided tennis courts and that a limited amount of money should be spent on their improvement. It might be worth considering if one of the courts should be marked out for short tennis and that area could also have basket ball/netball posts.*
- 3. The proposal for the football area is generally acceptable.*
- 4. Introduction of signs to assist with the enforcement of action against unsociable behaviour.*

Note

Members are reminded that the lead petitioner is permitted to address Council for up to three minutes. The relevant Executive Member will respond to the petition. There is no provision for any general debate by Members, however, local ward Members may comment if they wish.