

From: Longford Tennis <tennislongford@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday 18 October 2024 14:07
To: Longford Local Area Plan
Subject: EXTERNAL - Draft Longford Town Area Plan

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Longford Tennis Club have serious concerns about the proposed development at the end of the Demesne Lane, Longford shown on page 241 of the proposed Development Plan.

The Integrity of the Club's Parking Arrangement:

The Tennis Club is accessed down a narrow lane way which was historically used as access to a small number of houses, the tennis club and a farm. During the 1990's Longford Tennis Club received planning permission for our club house and it was a condition of that permission that we provided car park space for Club Users along the Demesne Lane. We moved our boundary line back from the original line to provide that space. However the property used for parking along the Club premises remains the property of the Club adjoining a narrow track that is the Demesne Lane. There was a subsequent large housing Development at Battery Court, Longford and this was allowed by the Planning Authority without adequate attention to the resultant increase in traffic flow down this narrow lane. The increased traffic has significantly compromised the safety and effectiveness of the Tennis Club's parking area. The proposed new development appears to take no account of providing alternative access routes to the development and heaps pressure on an already inadequate lane way. The Tennis Club are seriously concerned that the integrity of its Car Parking Arrangements already seriously compromised will be further compromised. In relation to the development plan and page 241, We would have concerns over road safety at our club given the increased volume of traffic.

The Safety of Users of the Demesne Lane and people using the Tennis Club:

With the increase in traffic already demonstrated above and the potential for a further large increase in volume, the Tennis Club remain seriously concerned for the health and safety of the many hundreds of patrons of our historic Club. The Tennis Club is a renowned hub of tennis Play in the midlands running perhaps one of the finest and longest standing National Open Tournaments each and every July for the past 50 years. Patrons including innumerable children use the facilities year round and have to navigate the already highly dangerous access lane to get to their games. Traffic travelling at often high speed pass up and down the lane right by this recreational treasure. The tennis club have in recent years pleaded with the Council to adopt safety measures to protect people especially children from the peril they are in and these requests appear to have been ignored. Instead, the safety concern have been greatly accentuated by this new plan to vastly increase the volume of traffic on this narrow country lane.

Finally, we note a proposed roadway or walkway will run just behind our clubhouse and we wish to point out our concerns from a safety point of view for a stray ball from our courts, in particular the court nearest the club house.

Gráinne Milner (Secretary)
on behalf of

The Committee of Longford Tennis Club

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