

Greater Cambridge Planning
South Cambridgeshire Hall
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge
CB23 6EA



Cambridge Green Party
603 Newmarket Road
Cambridge, CB5 8LG
contact@cambridge.greenparty.org.uk

Dear Greater Cambridge Planning,
Regarding planning application: 22/02066/FUL

We are writing to object to the proposal to build postgraduate accommodation on Owlstone Road.

The application site is adjacent to the Paradise Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and forms part of Newnham Croft Conservation Area. The proposed development would introduce four three-storey buildings between 5m and 21m from the boundary of the LNR. It is proposed to fell trees along this boundary, and the buildings will be prominent in views out of the reserve. This would detract significantly from the open and wild character of the area. The development would impact negatively on wildlife through disturbance and pollution due to dust, light and noise. It would represent the latest in a long line of projects that are gradually destroying Cambridge's remaining green spaces.

The proposal includes the demolition of the Queen's College Owlstone Croft nursery, which was only built 7 years ago. The nursery caters for children in the local area as well as from Queens' and other colleges and the local community has raised concerns about its loss. Demolishing and replacing a perfectly functional building would lead to significant embedded carbon costs, contrary to the Council's commitments on climate change.

The proposed development would negatively impact local people. There will be severe impacts over several years from construction traffic and the building work itself, and long-term impacts on residents from the increased local population. Building over this site may lead to increased flood risk in the surrounding area, while introducing 60 new residents will put pressures on the local sewage system.

Any benefits from this development are greatly outweighed by the harm that would be caused by its going ahead. The proposed landscaping and biodiversity gain only partially mitigate for this harm and offer no wider public benefits. We believe this proposal is contrary to Adopted Local Plan policies 61 (Conservation and enhancement of the Historic Environment), 67 (Protection of Open Space) and 69 (Protection of sites of biodiversity)

We therefore urge you to reject this proposal.

Yours sincerely
Cambridge Green Party