

From: Dean. J

Morden Assembly Hall - site proposal 10

I am writing in response to your recent suggested changes to the use of this site. In an area that already has a large volume of traffic (the roundabout and Grand Drive in particular) where planning permission has already been given for a large number of new houses to be built, where a local school has been removed and replaced with more residential housing, is there really a need for more houses? The Petrol Station site has already been turned into a car wash and I believe that there are also a number of people living, albeit illegally, on this site. Was this site not originally ear marked for housing?

Is it not about time that the Borough and indeed Merton Council's cabinet started to address the real problem in this area? An new improved community area is what is really needed. One that provides a wider range of use - perhaps a youth club, or sports events? The Sutton Life Centre is a fantastic development for the Sutton Borough and one that provides the local community with facilities that can be used by all ages. Morden Little League already offers fantastic free football that is very well received by many and these are the sort of community organisations that are needed to encourage children off of the streets and to give them something useful to do instead!

In my opinion, not only would your proposed changes lead to even more traffic in what is already a congested area, but allowing a building with upper floors on this site is just going to make the area look even more built up than it does already. Surely we should be looking to improve the local area and provide much needed facilities for those already living in it? Currently Aragon Primary offer a number extended services eg Library, children's centre etc - why can these services not be factored into this as part of a new community service for those already living in the area? There are a large number of children of all ages living locally and there is very much a need for facilities that can be used by them and their parents.

I received your letter through the post and took the time to read it, but how many people are actually aware of the proposals that you are suggesting? Would it not be worthwhile carrying out a survey to see exactly what the local community think? It is very easy to slide these suggestions by without people really being aware of them - I certainly know that from the local people that I have spoken to, none of them were aware of the current proposals being put forward for the use of this land!