

24th February 2013

Strategic Policy and Research
Future Merton
London Borough of Merton
12th Floor Civic Centre
London Road
Morden. SM4 5DX

Email: ldf@merton.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

Stage 3 of Merton's Sites and Policies Plan

The Mitcham Village Residents' committee met recently to consider the above and I set out below our comments on the following sites:

- Worsfold House, site 17
- Wilson Hospital, site 20
- Birches Close, site 21
- Raleigh Gardens Car Park, site 34
- Mitcham Fire Station, site 35
- Brook House, site 53
- Sibthorpe Car Park, site 69
- Policies Map, Mitcham Town Centre

Worsfold House. We support the proposed school use, but not residential use.

Wilson Hospital. We note the uncertainty over the future use of this site as a potential Local Care Centre. If the Care Centre cannot be provided on this site, then an alternative use (if the Care Centre were to be located on the Birches site) for residential use is supported.

Birches Close. We note the uncertainty over the future use of this site as a potential Local Care Centre. This site would be appropriate as a Local Care Centre.

Raleigh Gardens Car Park. The Council's preferred use for residential, offices or financial & professional use is **not** supported. This site should remain in use as a Car Park. Please also see our comments relating to Sibthorpe car park.

Mitcham Fire Station. The Council's preferred use is supported.

Brook House. The Council's preferred use as a Nursing Home/ Care home or Hotel is supported.

Sibthorpe Car Park. The Council's preferred use is for "town centre uses and residential". We support the proposal to redevelop this site so that the regeneration of Mitcham Town Centre should be assured; however, "town centre uses" is too vague a term. We would support a development which could include retail or, like the Fire Station, a mix of uses such as cinema, gallery, theatre, and restaurant.

We would not support any proposal for residential only on this site; whilst we could agree to a degree of "living over the shops" if this was incidental to other "town centre uses".

Any new build over this car park should take as its reference the height of the existing properties fronting London Road in the Town Centre; and should not exceed three floors, so as the new development would support and not dominate the area.

If this site were to be developed then the continued use of Raleigh Gardens Car Park for car park use would remain essential.

Policies Map. We support the new, tighter, boundary proposed for Mitcham Town Centre

Yours faithfully

Mitcham Village Residents' Association