



Future Merton
London Borough of Merton
12th Floor Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX

27th February 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Draft Sites and Policies Development: Stage 3 Public Consultation

Our comments on the draft document are as follows:

1. We welcome the extensions to the designated area of Dundonald Recreation Ground to include the rose Garden and entrance from Merton Hall Road. This puts right an anomaly in the UDP and will help to ensure that the whole of the Rec is treated as public open space, protected under Policy DM 01, and is not developed for other uses.
2. We welcome the inclusion of some alternative Proposal Sites which are considered suitable for development for new, satellite or expanded schools. These include:
 - 21 Leyton Road (PS 08)
 - Queens Road car park PS12)
 - Kenley Road car park (PS65)
 - Old Lamp Works, High Path (PS46).
3. However, although the Capita Symonds Report has clearly been taken into account in the revision, it is difficult to understand why other prime sites have not been included as Proposal Sites with D1 school use an appropriate use. In particular, the following are deemed by the report as suitable for school use:
 - The Manoplastics site on Kingston Road
 - Trinitarian Bible Society site on Morden Road
 - Dairy Crest site, Gap Road
 - Whatley Centre, Whatley Avenue.
 - The 3 other sites associated with Merton Abbey School.
4. It is also not clear why large sites such as the Emma Hamilton Pub are not included and guidance given.
5. Other sites, previously identified as offering potential for school development, do not appear to have been re-assessed.

Overall, Merton's policies do not give sufficient weight to the identified need for educational sites. Suitable brownfield sites should be assessed as part of a dynamic process, and every opportunity taken to acquire appropriate them, in advance of need. We urge that all suitable sites be reconsidered as a priority so that proper provision for primary and other schools can be made.

Yours sincerely,

Lorraine Maries
For Protect Dundonald Rec Campaign Group