15th November 2024

Ref: AWDM/1316/24

Dear Sir/Madam

I write with reference to the above application.

I am a daily user of Brooklands Park and run the local community group "Friends of Brooklands Park, and I write to strongly object to both aspects of the application.

The application to retail fuel 24 hours a day 7 days a week is a very disturbing idea.

Brooklands Park offers a free experience for all of Worthings residents and is well served by public transport.

The park may not be a protected conservation area, but it is a very important area of conservation and an area that deserves protection. The main focus of our volunteer group is to make improvements to the park for both users and wildlife. A 24 hour facility will encourage gatherings of people in the park and make it feel unsafe, especially at night. The area already has its share of anti-social behavior, rough sleeping, and we have experienced some vandalism within the park and harming wildlife. This potentially will increase and undo all the hard work that our volunteers do and be a bigger threat to our amazing wildlife. We have future projects planned with more planting and putting in a nature trail and are concerned that our projects will be negatively impacted. Litter will increase which the park already struggles to deal with at peak times, which will lead to an increase of vermin. The general noise will increase and will have a negative impact on the residents / wildlife, and the granting of these permissions will only make this situation much worse.

The application to demolish and rebuild the whole site has no design plans for the public to view. There is no information about the new lighting and its potential pollution and therefore how can permission be granted for something that has no plans in place,

Granting this application will create noise, disturbance, a large increase of traffic with its associated smells and fumes, antisocial behaviour, and vandalism. These points are all very strong reasons for rejecting the application.

Worthing council is committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030 and the town by 2050, this application is not upholding this important aim.

The same application was refused at planning in 2003. It was at that time considered to be an unneighbourly form of development with what was considered to be inadequate parking. I fail to see what has altered within the area in order for the extended hours to now be granted.

Please take our objection into account when you are making your decision.

Thanks and Regards

Friends of Brooklands Park

[redacted]