



6 April 2016

Mr C Makasis,
Estate Manager
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Dear Chris

1 SABIN DRIVE, WESTON UNDER WETHERLEY

I am writing in response to the Public Notice re the sale of Public Open Space to the owners of the above property.

I recognise that this area of Public Open Space has now been designated as Garden area by the Planning Committee of Warwick District Council in March 2015 (incorrectly in my view and totally against the advice of the Planning Department). However it has not yet been sold to anyone and on that basis I would like my **Objection** to the sale to be recorded for the following reasons.

When Wetherley Rise was built in 1997-99 the areas in front of 1 Sabin Drive, 2&4 Sabin Drive, the junction of Alderman Way /Sabin Drive and the District Council play area next to the Village Hall were all designated as public open spaces to be kept like this for the enjoyment of the village. This was to ensure that the pleasant vista and arrival at the entrance to Wetherley Rise was retained and would enhance the village. This was incorporated in the planning consents and obligations of Warwick District Council at the time.

Over the years previous owners of The Barn, the owner of No 3 Sabin Drive and a resident from The Courtyard tried to purchase land to give themselves a garden but these requests were robustly refused by both the then Parish Councillors and WDC, you, Chris, being the one officer of WDC who refused these attempts.

This land should continue to be open for the enjoyment of villagers as was the intention all those years ago and it is what many villagers and Councillors have fought for subsequently.

Despite the fact that it is now no longer designated as public open space, it should not be sold to a private individual. [REDACTED]

No-one should be able to buy public open space land that would then go on and alter the entrance to the estate. [REDACTED] bought the house knowing it had no garden. If a garden is what [REDACTED] wanted then [REDACTED] should have bought elsewhere.

This application never came to a public meeting of the village so that [REDACTED] could explain their reasons. Maybe before WDC sell off public land there should be a public meeting of the village to discuss this matter.

May I suggest that Warwick District Council think about leasing the land to the property, or to [REDACTED] which would then need to be re-leased to any new purchaser upon sale of the property.

Doing this will ensure that there is no financial gain to anyone. [REDACTED] (the same Code of Conduct that binds the District Councillors) and the Nolan Principles within this Code state:-

Selflessness - Holders of public office should act solely in terms of the public interest.
Integrity - They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends.

[REDACTED] is in danger of breaching the Code of Conduct, but leasing the land would avoid that problem completely.

Therefore my objection stands on the basis that this land has not yet been sold and should not be sold, as

- it will ruin the vista and entrance to the estate which was fought for so hard in 1997 and agreed at the time by WDC
- It has been refused permission for people to purchase by both Weston PC and WDC over the years, and simply
- It should stay as the open space that was intended
- it should be leased rather than sold.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]