

E. Hancock,  
Group Estates Director,  
Marston's PLC,  
Marston's House,  
Brewery Road,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 4JT

30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Ed,

#### WEST BYFLEET RECREATION GROUND

It was a pleasure for myself and fellow committee member, Ian, to meet you and your colleagues at the AGM.

In our discussions with yourself, Mr. Andrea and the Chairman, we hope we managed to convey to all of you how important our recreation ground is to local residents and the level of opposition to a pub being built on it.

I have enclosed a copy of our West Byfleet Neighbourhood Development Plan adopted by Woking Borough Council as part of their Development Plan. You will see our Policy OS1 on page 35 protects our recreation ground as "Local Green Space". This protection will make it very difficult for Marston's to obtain planning permission on it.

At the AGM your Chief Executive commented on the importance of "corporate responsibility". Going against a Neighbourhood Plan is hardly in line with that.

On page 37 of our Plan we outline community projects our residents have asked us to pursue. One of these is to improve our recreation ground. I have enclosed a concept plan of many ideas for this, funded by our share of Community Infrastructure Levy on local developments. The Children's Play Area in particular has become very rundown. Woking Borough Council have repeatedly delayed attempts to improve it. Residents suspect this has been to give Marston's time to put in a planning application and are very upset by it. Local mothers have talked of hiring a coach and protesting outside your Head Office with their children. None of us wants it to come to that.

Having looked at your criteria for new sites I cannot see how our recreation ground could qualify as the "AAA" site you require. Our population is too small, we have many and varied eating and drinking outlets already and the probability of getting planning approval is very low.

We would like you to remove our recreation ground from your list of potential sites.

It would be great if you could bring to a conclusion over two years of stress for our

community, worrying about your proposal and preventing improvements to our recreation ground by doing this.

Woking and its surrounding area is a good place to live with a thriving economy and I would be delighted to help you find an alternative site here.

Kind Regards,

Wade Pollard,

Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum  
wade.pollard@btinternet.com

Cc William Rucker, Chairman, Marston's PLC  
Andrew Andrea, Chief Financial Officer, Marston's PLC