



The Commons Team
The Planning Inspectorate
3F Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Temple Quay
Bristol, BS1 6PN
commonlandcasework@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam,

OBJECTION TO APPLICATION BY NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL TO THE PLANNING INSPECTORATE FOR CONSENT UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE COMMON ACT 2006 TO BUILD A TARMAC ROAD ON COMMON LAND OF BUTTS CLOSE, BEDFORD ROAD, HITCHIN, HERTS, SG5 1HA

Hitchin Forum has been closely involved with the development of the current Greenspace Action Plan for Butts Close throughout all stages of the consultation process. We applauded North Hertfordshire District Council and its partner the Countryside Management Service for the consultation process as a model of good practice. The resulting Action Plan utilised local knowledge very successfully, and continues to do so. It has the potential to significantly enhance the biodiversity and character of this historic piece of urban green space.

It is very disappointing that the Greenspace Action Plan should be compromised by this ill-conceived application which will encourage unnecessary car use, especially when an under-used council carpark is conveniently situated for users of the fitness centre.

Hitchin Forum Steering Group members have carefully read the submission by Friends of Butts Close regarding the NHDC application for consent for the above application. We fully endorse all of their objections.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Sellicks (Chairman)