

Comments for Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

Application Summary

Application Number: TP/ED/26/0104

Address: Whitegates Park Middlemuir Road Lenzie East Dunbartonshire

Proposal: Erection of a secondary school including road access, landscaping, car parking, sports pitches, recreational areas and associated development.

Case Officer: Fraser McNair

Customer Details



Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: The need to provide a modern, fit-for-purpose secondary school for the community should be the primary consideration in determining this application. The existing Lenzie Academy building is not fit for purpose. A purpose-built school would provide flexible learning environments, modern sports facilities and improved accessibility for pupils and staff. Investment in high-quality educational infrastructure will have a lasting positive impact on the young people of this community and the long-term strength of the area.

The current Academy site presents significant physical constraints. The site is tightly bounded and already experiences substantial congestion at peak times. Access arrangements are challenging, and it is difficult to see how the site could accommodate the scale of facilities required for a modern secondary school while maintaining safe and effective transport arrangements. In contrast, the Whitegates site appears capable of accommodating a well-designed campus with appropriate outdoor space, sports provision, landscaping and improved access arrangements.

The importance of Whitegates as a green space has been massively overstated by some objectors. Local green space is clearly valuable, but the Whitegates area is not heavily used by most locals despite what a minority may say. There are other areas within Lenzie that are havens for wildlife (I would not put Whitegates Park in this category). As regards contamination or toxicity—these issues are commonly encountered in development projects and appear to have been adequately addressed in the proposal.

The longer the planning process and associated objections extend, the longer pupils and staff must continue using a building that is widely recognised as being in dilapidated condition. Prolonged delays risk pushing back the delivery of a new school by several years which can only

be detrimental to our town.