

## **Copthall Sports Hub & Mill Hill Open Spaces Master Plan Consultation** **Feedback – Mill Hill Neighbourhood Forum**

The general concepts of the plan under review are supported although there are perhaps too many hard structures in the Copthall section. The café which is being built as part of the new Leisure Centre should be sufficient without another being provided.

The proposed linking of Copthall, with Arrandene & Mill Hill Park should work well. We support off-road "safe" cycle tracks which could indeed be more appropriate and useful if they were extended beyond your current thinking, to allow travel from Totteridge to the Ridgeway (across Totteridge Valley), then downhill utilising the Mill Hill Cemetery (now in LBB's Ownership) to cross Milesplit Hill opposite it's entrance to Arrandene. From Arrandene we would see a link to Mill Hill Park and via Page Street to the Old railway line to Mill Hill East from Saracens, then in support of the thinking of Middlesex University, on through Sunneyfield Park to Hendon. Then taking the route from Arrandene through Mill Hill Park to Flower Lane a further link should be forged to the rest of the old railway line from Lyndhurst Park to Edgware. Our sketch attached shows these suggestions on a map.

We are also concerned that the proposed NW7hub on land transferred by the Council to the Charity is not fully integrated into your plans. Another café restaurant in the park would seem overkill and should you be considering providing Changing Rooms for athletes/Sportsmen & women then it could be more logical, we feel, to build them in close proximity as an adjunct to the NW7hub, such that they can be effectively managed by the proposed on-site operational team on an hourly basis 7 days a week. Further the NW7hub will have 4 Unisex & 1 disabled toilets on each of its two floors and we note that the Council is keen to improve its provision of public toilets. You may be aware that the plans for the NW7hub have now been provided to the Council's Planning team. 2 Computer Generated images are attached to this email.

Measures are urgently required in the Car Parks in Daws Lane & Wise Lane to encourage circulation and a parking survey is soon to be conducted by LBB (Jamie Cooke) looking at mechanisms for charging in these car parks and reviewing whether a CPZ in surrounding roads could be required. As we increase the usage of the parks and the Community Centre, then there has to be a significant increase in availability of car parking, although we do accept that some can be encouraged to cycle, walk and use public transport.

This brings us to comment on the lack of Public Transport available to Copthall, and we do feel that the old railway track could in the short term accommodate a bus service, alongside a walkway and separate cycleway. In the long term it should be strategically reserved for future transport solutions which could be an extension of the Northern Line to Edgware & perhaps beyond or a light-rail solution. Equally as we suggested in our earlier submission when consulted on Green Spaces in NW7 a bus service could carry on from Copthall in a loop to Colindale, Graham Park, Mill Hill Broadway and back via

Flower & Bunns Lanes to Copthall. This make the Leisure Centre in Copthall available to residents of Colindale & Graham Park without the need to travel by car.

We trust that these comments will be fully evaluated and considered by the Committee.