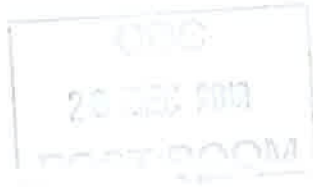


19th December 2019

TO:
Development Management
Cherwell District Council
Bodicote House
Bodicote
Banbury OX15 4AA



Robin and Janice Stafford Allen
Robin's Folly,
Mill Lane
Weston On The Green,
OX25 3QR



Ref: Great Lakes UK Ltd - Application Ref: 19/02550/F



Dear Sir,

We wish to strongly object to this application for a large-scale water theme park in the small village of Chesterton adjacent to Weston On The Green. There is absolutely no need for such a development in this location, nor is it in line with the local development plan.

This is currently a valuable green-field site providing a healthy sporting facility, which will be lost to a vast, inappropriately sized concreted area with large uncharacteristic buildings for a small village. The 900-space car park indicates the anticipated huge volume of extra traffic that will be travelling to and from the site, bringing with it a substantial increase in noise pollution, not to mention a decrease in air quality and thereby potentially adding to the associated health issues currently being identified nationally.

This will be a private resort attracting a proposed 500,00 visitors, and their vehicles, per year into an area already suffering from severe traffic congestion issues on the M40, A34, A41, A4095 and B430. Sat navs will bring all the traffic from the M40 through the horrendously overloaded Junction 9 and down the A34 and through Weston On The Green despite the persuasive suggestion of the developer to pretend to control the traffic routing.

The infrastructure of the area will simply not be able to sustain this proposed development, to the detriment of thousands of local residents and businesses. The Conference facilities will also attract an unknown but substantial extra number of car movements and resulting congestion.

Economically, the development will provide very little benefit to the local area, which already has very low unemployment. Its requirement to employ 600 lower skilled staff will either attract employees away from existing local businesses (already struggling to find staff) or necessitate distanced new employees travelling into the site, thereby increasing car journeys further (there is no provision for staff accommodation on site). These low-skilled employment opportunities are also contrary to Cherwell District Council's strategic aim of prioritising knowledge-based investment as a priority.

This resort will not be open to the public. The possibility of being offered expensive day passes will be solely dependent upon poor hotel occupancy, which is obviously not in the developers' plans! As the majority of guests are encouraged to stay and spend their money on site, there will be negligible economic benefit to the local hospitality industry.

Once again, we strongly object to this unwanted and inappropriate proposal, completely out of keeping with its rural location, and ask that it be refused.

Yours faithfully,

