

103 (RUPS)
HELP SAVE BECKENHAM PLACE PARK - - - UPDATE -

This is the third issue of information on the Beckenham Place Park proposals that the Society has made to Members and other households in our area and is to bring you up to date with events.



At the Lewisham Planning Committee on Thursday 24th. September about 100 objectors came along to sit in to listen to the proceedings. The Chairman began by announcing that, due to the large number of objections to the proposals, the Committee would defer consideration of the Application. A special meeting dealing exclusively with this matter would be arranged and this would give objectors a better opportunity to speak at the meeting or to write in beforehand.

After leaving the Committee Room, the majority of the objectors assembled in the Council Chamber (with permission) and an ad hoc discussion took place on future tactics. The Society will join other interested Groups in the area to co-ordinate efforts to fight these proposals.

As a reminder, we highlight the main points at issue again -

IT IS NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU TO ACT IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO:-

Lewisham Leisure Department want to hand over Beckenham Place Park to David Lloyd Clubs for 99 years and allow them to:-

- * Build indoor tennis courts, swimming pool and other club facilities which together create a building the size of three football pitches and looking like a huge factory surrounded by security fences.
- * Alter the existing 18 hole golf course and create a new 9 hole course.
- * Build a two storey, 36 bay golf driving range with 30 foot high fences and flood lighting.
- * Convert the Mansion House into a Club.
- * Convert the stable block into housing and build a terrace of 3 houses, all for sale.
- * Build new car parks for 450 cars with all the necessary access roads.

What will this mean to you?

- + If you are a golfer or tennis player you may welcome the new facilities, but you will be lucky if you can afford to pay for them.
- + If you are a footballer, you will not be pleased that an area that can hold up to 15 pitches will be lost to the Tennis Centre and to Golfers and you will have to play elsewhere.
- + If you are a nature lover, you will be horrified at the loss of many acres of natural habitat.
- + If you simply want to go for a quiet walk, or exercise the dog, you will find yourself fenced out and /or priced out of large areas that have always been open to you.
- + If you live on one of the approach roads you can expect a significant increase in traffic for up to fourteen and a half hours a day.

Once it is built over Beckenham Place Park, as we know it, will be lost for ever and other precious green lungs of London will be at risk of suffering a similar fate.

IF YOU WANT TO STOP THIS HAPPENING - write TODAY to :-

Mr. Robin Cross
Borough Planning Officer
London borough of Lewisham
Town Hall Chamber
London SE6 4RY

Also contact your Local Councillor
and your Member of Parliament.

Points to include in your letter are -

- * The extra Golf facilities are too much and will reduce free access to the Park.
- * The tennis centre proposals go against Government guidance and Lewisham's own Plan.
- * A Public Inquiry should be held.

Finally - Attend the Special Council Committee Meeting to be held at Lewisham Town Hall at 7.30pm. Thursday 22nd. October.