

HINXTON PARISH COUNCIL

From the Interim Chair:

Nicholas Cliffe, The Grange, 8 Hall Farm Barns, Hunts Lane, Hinxton, Cambridgeshire CB10 1SG

Councillor B. Smith
South Cambridgeshire District Council
Cambourne Business Park
Cambourne
Cambridge
CB23 6EA

8 February 2021

Dear Councillor Smith.

Hinxton Parish Council and Wellcome Expansion – Planning Application Reference S/4329/18/OL

Firstly, I hope you and your family are continuing to stay safe and well.

I think you will know that, following a parish open meeting on 22 January, a decision was taken that Hinxton Parish Council would not proceed with a Judicial Review of the decision to grant permission for the expansion of the Wellcome campus (following the execution of the Section 106 Agreement in December) and in fact the deadline for doing so has now passed in any event.

We did in fact obtain an expert legal opinion and it was felt that the potential costs were too much to justify such a review for a village the size of Hinxton.

Notwithstanding that decision, the Parish Council and many residents continue to feel very strongly that SCDC has badly let down the community it is intended to represent by allowing the significant local harm to be out-weighed by the 'national interest', when that interest had not been adequately justified. In particular, it remains our view that the 'science' was far too broadly applied to support such a large commercial expansion and especially the huge residential allocation.

That being said, it is now the specific request of Hinxton Parish Council that SCDC continues to apply the most rigorous scrutiny of the detailed plans as they emerge and closely monitors the scheme to ensure that user and especially residential covenants are very strictly adhered to, in order to ensure that the integrity of the original scheme is not undermined.

We also presume and expect that you will keep Hinxton Parish Council fully informed and involved as the scheme progresses.

Yours sincerely,


Nicholas Cliffe
Interim Chair - Hinxton PC

cc by e-mail S. Kelly (Joint Head of Planning, SCDC), T. Williams (Planning Dept, SCDC), Cllr. Peter McDonald