

**From:** [Ellenbrook Area Residents Association EARA](#)  
**To:** [Joanna Vincent](#); [Brenda Taplin](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: FW: Application no. PL/0232/21  
**Date:** 23 November 2021 00:04:16

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----- Original Message -----

From: Christopher Musk  
To: "info@ellenbrookresidents.org" <info@ellenbrookresidents.org>  
Date: 22/11/2021 11:52  
Subject: FW: Application no. PL/0232/21

Good Morning,

I hope that this will not be too late for inclusion in the letters of objection and can be made available to the Inspector.

We only returned to the UK late last evening and sorry for this delay.

Regards

Mr and Mrs Christopher Musk

Residents of Smallford

Subject: Land at Hatfield Aerodrome - Application no. PL/0232/21

Dear Sirs

My wife and I wish to object to the proposal to extract minerals from the site of the former Hatfield Aerodrome.

The land has been contaminated since about the year 2000 when Bromate was found in the ground water. As a known carcinogen, there are significant dangers to drinking water supplies if the quarry were to be given planning permission. Hatfield's drinking water was taken from the Public Supply Bore Hole at Bishops Rise but this had to be disconnected as a result of the Bromate. Contaminated water is now scavenged and pumped from Bishops Rise to Maple Cross where it is treated before discharge. This area of pollution is now recognised as being the largest in Europe, with fears that the contamination could reach the New River, supplying much of London's water. To give Brett their due, they have modified their new application removing the concrete batching plant that formed part of their earlier refused application, but have not understood that excavation in this area could be calamitous. Add to this the fact that the area was a major target for enemy bombing during WWII and that there is every possibility that live ordnance could be found. It has happened nearby

before, with on site detonation necessary, but that was possible as it was before the installation of the four foot diameter high pressure Gas Main that now traverses the Western end of the site.

The pollution experts are as much in the dark as any, there is no past parallel from which to have a model, all involved are learning 'on the job'. The hazardous risks of allowing this extraction are totally outweighed by the real and present risk this site contains, if disturbed. This is too vital a site to trust to luck, endangering the health and the lives of thousands, the minerals can be sourced elsewhere.

Should approval be given, local communities, businesses and the University of Hertfordshire especially those close to the gravel workings, will be subjected to other health issues, noise from the workings, noise from traffic, dust and air born particulates, all recognised as being health hazards for the next 35 years or more.

The planning permission granted to Arlington in the year 2000 for industry, housing and a university complex was conditional on a Trust being set up to manage the remainder of the Airfield as a country park, a much needed 'Green Lung' for the surrounding communities. The Trust would oversee the conversion to The Country Park and then manage the Park for the general benefit of the community. That Trust was never enacted. Why not? The planning granted had this contractual obligation, so much for the integrity of the landowners. In consequence the land has remained largely as it was when used as an aerodrome. However, the open space and green environment has been a godsend to thousands of people, both local residents and from further afield, during the recent pandemic being used for a variety of leisure activities including walking, jogging, running, cycling and dog walking. It is an important and valuable area to the local communities.

For the above reasons, we would strongly oppose any application to establish a quarry on this land.

We remain

Yours faithfully

Name:- Mr and Mrs Christopher Musk.

Address:-