



Councillor Richard Church
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24th September 2006

Planning Dept.
Northampton Borough Council
Cliftonville House
Bedford Rd.
Northampton NN4 7NR

Dear Sirs

**Planning Applications N/2006/1052 and WN/2006/0154
Parklands Middle School, Devon Way**

I write to object to the two planning applications above. The reasons for my objection are as follows:

- (1) Housing development at these sites is clearly contrary to the existing local plan, which identifies the land for educational purposes. The application fails to demonstrate that the land will not be needed in the longer term for educational or recreational purposes.
- (2) The Northampton playing pitch strategy places Parklands ward with Kingsley ward, thereby including the Racecourse. There are no public playing fields within the Parklands area (an area of some 2,000 households) and the Racecourse is clearly not appropriate for the informal use of residents in Parklands as it is some 2 miles from the estate, and Bradlaugh Fields does not provide for team sports. To link the Racecourse with Parklands in terms of playing field provision is clearly inappropriate
- (3) Parklands is a large estate currently accessed by only one major road to the Kettering Rd. The proposed development will put increased pressure on Spinney Hill Rd and will encourage rat running onto the minor roads accessing the estate. In addition it will increase the volume of traffic at the Spinney Hill Rd and Kettering Rd junction, increasing congestion and air pollution on the Kettering Rd.

I urge that these planning applications be refused.

Yours Sincerely

Councillor Richard Church