



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr John Woods
11 Midholm
Wembley Park
HA9 9LJ

Our Ref: JG / ZA22404

24 January 2017

Dear John

Thank you for your letter regarding the Wembley Stadium proposals. I share your concerns and I have written to the planning department regarding the proposals to increase the "Event Days" by an additional thirty one sporting events.

I am aware that on event days the local public houses and the area is extremely busy and many residents have reported anti-social behaviour especially when the weather is warmer and the attendees drink outside.

I am several copies of my letter to the Chief Planning Office at Brent Council and you may wish to distribute these to the residents. I will be in touch when I have a response.

Thank you for writing to me and if there are any further matters you would like to bring to my attention please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Barry Gardiner
Member of Parliament for Brent North



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Alice Lester
Head of Planning
Brent Council
Brent Civic Centre
Engineers Way
HA9 0FJ

Our Ref: JG / ZA22404

24 January 2017

Dear Ms Lester,

Wembley Stadium – proposed planning application.

The national Stadium in Wembley has had a hugely positive impact and I welcome the significant regeneration in and around the area. Additionally the stadium has always recognised the importance of interacting with the local community and working closely with key stakeholders to identify any issues or points of concern.

I understand that Wembley Stadium are proposing to put through a planning application to increase the number of full capacity (91,000 attendees) Event Days by an additional thirty one sporting events and this is to accommodate Tottenham Hotspur Football Club during the redevelopment of their White Hart Lane Stadium. However, I am informed that Tottenham's current ground capacity is 36,824 and they would not expect attendances of 91,000. Wembley's available spectator capacity can already accommodate up to 51,000 and it is unclear why there is a need to increase to the full capacity.

I would seek your assurance that:

- Residents will be fully consulted on these proposals in accordance with the original agreement when the stadium was rebuilt.
- Details of the consultation, how to take part and the closing date will be widely advertised.
- Details of all consultation responses will be available for the public to view.

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I appreciate the economic benefits to the Wembley area through additional spending on food, drink and other ancillary items and the additional catering and stewarding employment opportunities.

However on major event days measures are put in place to alleviate the impact of vehicular traffic on the local residents and businesses. Brent Council have introduced restrictions in relation to on street parking and access restrictions of roads that surround the stadium. Road closures are in force from 10.00am on the event day until midnight and apply to Fulton Road, Engineers Way and South Way.

Notwithstanding the improvements to Wembley Park Station and Wembley Central – “Event Day” is not a pleasant experience for local residents and businesses. Most residents plan their days around event days because even a simple shopping trip for food shopping becomes a difficult task. On an event day in excess of 40,000 people will go through Wembley Park Station and 100 trains an hour will go through the three Wembley stations servicing the Stadium.

Increasing the number of matches to every other week and sometimes twice a week will prove a real strain on local living and it is important that local residents should have their say on these proposals and measures are put in place to ensure the infrastructure can absorb the impact of the additional footfall.

In discussions with the police recently they informed me that there has been a change in the nature of the crowd on match days and it is particularly combative. I am told sporadic violence breaks out around Wembley before most games involving club sides. Historically violence happens before matches involving the London clubs, Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal, Chelsea and Crystal Palace.

I have also received many letters regarding the anti-social drinking in the streets around Wembley Park, the lack of toilet facilities in the local public houses and the additional litter which is visible for many days after the event. I am told that in more recent months the standard of the street cleaning after the events has deteriorated and this is something that must be addressed. Additionally I am told that the police simply do not have enough resources to enforce the ban on drinking in the streets and the associated socially irresponsible behaviour.

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Given the current number of event days already causes significant problems and disruption for residents I would seek your assurance that before designating any additional full "Event Days" a full and proper consultation with all residents takes place and further measures are introduced to mitigate the existing number of event day impacts on local residents and the wider community.

I would also seek your assurance that a full consultation will take place with the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services and the various council units – Recycling and Waste, Licensing and Transportation.

I look forward to your comments.

Yours sincerely,



Barry Gardiner
Member of Parliament for Brent North