

71 Fairlands Road
Limefield
Bury
BL9 6QB

9th November 2015

Jayne Hammond
Council Solicitor
Town Hall
Knowsley Street
Bury
BL9 OSW

Re: Disposal of Public Open Space Land, Radcliffe

Dear Ms Hammond,

I'm contacting you to register my objection to the disposal of the Public Open Space Land that surrounds Radcliffe Civic Hall on Thomas Street, Radcliffe.

My objections are summarised thus:

1) Looking at Bury Council's leaflet, "Radcliffe Regeneration", it seems to me that the disposal of this Public Open Space Land can only be understood in relation to the demolition of Radcliffe Civic Suite with a view to its proposed housing scheme on the **whole** of that site.

2) I'm unhappy that the map made available to the public through its notification under the Local Government Act 1972 Section 123 (2A) which was published on 22/10/15 and 29/10/15 respectively, doesn't actually show that the Civic Suite itself, to be demolished for some 40 housing units, **is located in the middle of the Public Open Space Land**, and on that basis, I think it is therefore, quite misleading.

3) Additionally, according to its own Unitary Development Plan, Bury Council is committed to maintaining community facilities and public open space as regards the Green St / New Church Street area of the town centre. The Council also claiming that it will support "**retailing, business, office and leisure uses of the Opportunity Site as identified on Green St.**" Their justification is that "This area of the town centre, directly to the north of the main shopping area, is expected to remain an important focus for recreation and community facilities." It further identifies the Civic Hall, the town's main health centre, its public baths and St Thomas' and St. John's Churches, stating that the relative accessibility of these facilities should be upheld.

Considering these statements I object to the disposal of the land surrounding the Civic Hall. If the Unitary Plan commits the Council to keep the land north of the main shopping area for recreation and community facilities (that includes the named Public Open Space plus the Civic Hall building itself) how can it then renege on it's own agreement? Furthermore, if developments should take place in the Green St /

New Church St area, the plan **quite clearly states that this should be for retail, business, office or leisure use**, not for the 40 houses it proposes!

4) Disposal of the Public Open Space surrounding the Civic Hall surely requires the Council to **declare publicly that it intends to change the use of this land** and also to conduct **proper consultation** with the people of Radcliffe, something I believe should take place over a goodly period, not the stingy four weeks official Notice.

In view of the points that I have raised, I would like to ask that the Notice pertaining to the Disposal of Public Open Space surrounding Radcliffe Civic Hall therefore be withdrawn with immediate effect.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen Wood", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Karen Wood