

FAO Independent EFD Local Plan Inspector

Re LOU.R5. Protect Jessel Green

Debden was built with the importance of green space in mind. It seems ironic then, that while London and its surroundings start to become enlightened about the importance of green space not just for physical health but also mental wellbeing, EFDC is regressing by threatening to build 154 homes (none of which are earmarked for social housing so do precisely nothing to alleviate the "housing crisis") on Jessel Green, OUR much loved community greenspace.

.....Redacted.....
One of the lovely things about Debden as opposed to other areas we looked to move to was the wealth of greenery.Redacted.....
To get off the tube at Debden at the end of the working day is literally like a breath of fresh air and to be able to walkRedacted..... on Jessel Green is an absolute pleasure.

I understand people need homes,Redacted....., Debden has already seen a great deal of building work - a whole row of particularly ugly apartments on Burton Road (currently in progress) and the new development at the end of the Broadway (some of the flats in which remain unsold months after completion AND in the midst of a housing crisis) to name a couple.

At what point does enough become enough?Redacted..... it dismays me when a growing number of friends announce they are moving away as it's become too overcrowded/the air is so bad its caused their children to develop allergies/quality of life is getting worse etc. Mass building without proper thought isn't creating communities, its destroying them by making things so unpleasant for those already in the area, that they feel they have no choice but to leave - schools and doctor surgeries at capacity, having to stand for the 45 minute commute to work as the central line is so busy, traffic at a standstill during peak times, bus routes being cancelled, key services being cut etc. In light of this, I find EFDC plans to build on Jessel Green even more ill conceived.

Hundreds of local residents enjoyed a Fun Day on the Green last Summer, I meet scores of people walking their dogs there in the morning, many friends take their children to the playground, teenagers play football there and very recently families came out in their droves to enjoy the snow! Developing Jessel Green deprives the local area of another vital community resource and it's completely unacceptable! Would it not be better to make use of the 447 empty council homes EFDC very clearly mention on their website thus providing vital accommodation for low income families rather than ripping the heart out of the community by building on Jessel Green?

There are definitely solutions that do not involve much loved Jessel Green - please (for once) listen to us!

Sincerely,

Laura Anderson