It would appear the recommendation of the Conservators of Epping Forest has been ignored; this is akin to ignoring the testimony of an expert witness. They would not have come to this conclusion without sound and justifiable rationale.

RESPONSE of THE CONSERVATORS of EPPING FOREST to the EPPING FOREST DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN (REGULATION 18) CONSULTATION

At Loughton The Conservators would disagree with the proposed loss of green space at Borders Lane and Jessel Green. The latter site in particular, if lost, would place considerable pressure on the nearby Forest and also would seem to be in contradiction to the green infrastructure policies in the draft Plan. Such a large green space is currently valuable and has considerable potential to be developed for both access and for wildlife.

In 2011 a Government White Paper was published which stated green spaces are incredibly important to local life which is why this government is committed to protecting them......We are also making sure that what we decide today leaves a positive and sustainable legacy for future generations......National Planning Policy Framework gives communities the certainty that the planning system will continue to protect the natural environment in their area.

How hollow this sounds today with the proposed development of Jessel Green. This paper was published under a Conservative Government.

The Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs also produced a paper in late 2011, the then Minister stated – Green spaces are not only important to our health and well-beingit is time to place the same level of emphasis on our green infrastructure.

Obviously as time has passed it is now convenient to forget these plans, what legacy is EFDC going to leave for our younger generations? No green areas, overcrowding development, roads full of parked cars due to lack of parking space, poor quality of life, social issues, the list is endless. I truly believe that the only focus is on how many homes can be crammed on to this piece of land.

Jessel Green is our park and no doubt the aim of the planners when building the original development left this land for the residents to enjoy and contribute to their well-being.