Epping Forest District Council Civic Offices High Street Epping Essex. CM16 4BZ

Dear Sir/Madam,

## <u>Proposed development of North Weald Golf Club, Rayley Lane, North Weald Bassett, Epping, CM16 6AR</u>

The Government announced in the Autumn Budget that we need to build 250,000 – 300,000 new houses per year in the future. Epping Forest is a sensitive location but it will not be immune from development pressure because of local population needs and its proximity to London. I believe I speak for the majority when I say that we need housing so why not have a development that incorporates the housing we need with the education, community and sports facilities that we want in the area. In my opinion this is common sense and although as part of the planning process there are hurdles to overcome, in an area that has already been identified as capable of taking development.

Another significant advantage of this development proposal is that whilst it is accessible to other local population centres by existing footpaths and bridleways, it does not encroach upon existing settlements such as North Weald. It is a sustainable location with excellent accessibility to the motorway network and a bus route immediately adjacent to the site that will ensure that public transport services will be hugely improved and allow users and residents to have a clear alternative to the private car as a mode of transport. The development will also offer the opportunity to enhance and upgrade existing footpath and cycle links and also to allow people to make use of the country park, the education hub and the sports facilities.

I am of the strong opinion that the economic, social, educational, sporting and community benefits on offer at North Weald Park are excellent and believe the council, for the future success of the area, needed to allocate this land for development and pave the way for an exemplar development. Hopefully another opportunity will arise for that to be done.

