



# *The Counties Residents' Association*

*Protecting the interests of the community*

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Dear Sir

I am writing on behalf of the Counties Residents Association, which represents the Residents Association that is most closely located to Eton Manor Rugby Club in Wanstead.

There are many examples of the Club's excellent relationship with the local area, but the best example is the events leading up to the Olympics in the summer of 2012. Being located relatively near Stratford, the club wished to use their ground for a campsite for visitors to the games and also volunteers. The ground is large, and is able to accommodate up to around 300 tents.

Clearly, such an influx of people around the area caused some concern among some local residents, some of which was expressed to us. The main concerns were around parking and noise. We met with the club early in the planning process, and after listening to the plans, expressed our initial support for the planning application. The club then organised an open evening where the plans could be discussed and explained. We also expressed our support for the plans at our AGM in early July, where we received some questions from residents. While the campsite was open, some of the Association visited the site, and were very impressed with the peaceful and well organised nature of the event.

The end result was a local community who felt they had had the opportunity to comment on the plans, and the process even publicised the club to some people who were unaware of its existence. We were delighted the campsite was such a success, and that there was no local disruption.



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In general terms, the club attracts a significant number of children and parents from the immediate local area, many of whom walk and cycle to the ground on match days and for training. We believe that the Club is a valuable asset to the community, providing invaluable sport and recreational amenities to local residents.

There is no doubt that the Association enjoys excellent relations with the Rugby Club, and we would wholeheartedly support any plans they have to further improve the facilities that are well used by the local community.

Yours faithfully,

HELEN E ZAMMETT  
Chair