



Andrew Judge
Cabinet member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration
London Borough of Merton
Civic Centre
London Road
Morden
SM4 5DX

(by email)

29 September 2015

Dear Councillor Judge

WANDLE TRAIL & REDEVELOPMENT OF HASLEMERE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

We are writing in advance of the planning application being submitted by First Base for the redevelopment of the Haslemere Industrial Estate in Earlsfield. This follows helpful discussions with First Base and the two public exhibitions which have been held to inform the proposals.

The scheme raises many issues for the local area. These will be addressed in separate representations. We want to take this opportunity to demonstrate the strength of shared opinion about the opportunity this development provides to improve the Wandle Trail and provide links to Durnsford Road Recreation Ground.

Closing the “missing link” in the Wandle Trail is one of the most important priorities for the Wandle Valley Regional Park. The local community has also been working for decades on providing a direct link for Wimbledon Park residents to the Wandle. We can now address both issues through the Community Infrastructure Levy and any s106 obligations that will accompany any planning permission for this redevelopment. We ask that these provide for both a new route for the Wandle Trail from Trewint Bridge under the railway line to connect with the site, and a formal connection to Durnsford Road Recreation Ground through the south west of the site. These will both be well used by the new residents as well as bringing much needed benefit to the surrounding area.

General enquiries: wandlevalleyforum@gmail.com
Web site: <http://www.wandlevalleypark.co.uk/The-Trust/The-Trust-Forum>
Twitter: [@WandleForum](https://twitter.com/WandleForum)

Please respond to Chair, Wandle Valley Forum, c/o 43 Bramcote Avenue, Mitcham CR4 4LW

We are conscious of the effort that it will take to implement these two projects and believe Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust is well placed as the delivery vehicle. It has the skills and already has some financial resources to bring to the table in negotiations over the Wandle Trail with Network Rail, Transport for London and other landowners. This needs to be recognised and supported as part of the planning agreement.

We hope it is helpful to have this opportunity raised ahead of the planning application and that it can be negotiated into the final proposals. We should be happy to discuss the project with you at any stage and would welcome the opportunity of a meeting before conclusion of any pre-application discussions.

Yours sincerely



Tony Burton
Chair, Wandle Valley Forum

and on behalf of:

Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust
Wimbledon Park Residents Association
Wandle Runners
Wandle Trust
Merton Living Streets
Merton Cycling Campaign
Wandsworth Environment Forum
Wandsworth Living Streets
Wandsworth Cycling Campaign
Wimbledon Park ward councillors – Oonagh Moulton, Janice Howard, Linda Taylor
Earlsfield ward councillors - Rachael Stokes, Charles Lescott
Stephen Hammond MP