

WANDLE TRADING ESTATE – amended plans A response by Wandle Valley Forum to London Borough of Sutton Application number C2016/74653 July 2016

Wandle Valley Forum was established in 2005 and is the primary consultative forum on Wandle Valley issues for the Wandle Valley Regional Park Trust; the London Boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Sutton and Croydon; Greater London Authority and other statutory bodies

1. Wandle Valley Forum has reviewed the amended proposals for redevelopment of this important site spanning the Wandle for residential use. We have considered the proposals in the context of the Wandle Valley Forum Charter (<u>http://bit.ly/27Yal2m</u>) and existing development plan policies.

2. The Wandle Valley Forum Charter identifies a need for development to "*leave space along the river bank, support public access, encourage a naturally functioning river and respect the Wandle's local character.*" This is a highly significant location where development has a direct impact on the river and consequences for the surrounding areas, including Spencer Road wetlands. It is an important historical site in the Wandle Valley Regional Park immediately adjacent to the Wandle Trail.

3. The revised proposals are much less satisfactory than those previously consented in terms of their relationship to the Wandle. They:

- reduce the size of the mill pond
- provide inferior access over the pond
- delete two important areas of land which provide an important buffer between the development and Spencer Road wetlands – this land was previously recognised as providing compensation for the loss of a part of a Site of Important for Nature Conservation
- 4. We object to these changes to the consented plans.

About Wandle Valley Forum

Wandle Valley Forum brings together people and organisations that care for the River Wandle and its diverse network of open spaces. We provide support and an independent voice for over 80 community groups & voluntary organisations and for everyone who shares a passion for the Wandle. Wandle Valley Forum monitors planning applications for developments which impact on the special qualities and character of the Wandle Valley. We make representations on developments which raise Valley-wide issues by reason of their strategic significance or potential to set a precedent.

> General enquiries: wandlevalleyforum@gmail.com Web site: www.wandlevalleyforum.org.uk Twitter: @WandleForum