13 August 2014

Development Management Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Aberdeen City Council

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Planning Application 141026 Hazlehead Hotel and Country Club

I strongly object to the proposed planning development. I attended the viewing of the plans at 'Somebody Cares' on 31 March, and expressed my objections to the developers at that stage and am doing so again now.

My main objection is that the development would be totally incompatible with the surrounding area, and its current uses. Hazlehead Park and environs is an area of peace and beauty. There is an extensive network of paths through the woods which are used by walkers, runners, cyclists, horse riders, wheelchair users etc. The Hazlehead golf courses, and the Park itself are places where residents and tourist alike wish to relax in a peaceful environment. The impact on all these local amenities by such a large and overwhelming development, with the associated high volume of traffic and noise, would be most undesirable.

Hazlehead Park has for many years been a premier Park in Aberdeen, and is now being revitalised as the first Climate Change Park in Scotland. The proposed development's large carbon footprint (energy use, traffic etc) would be the antithesis of the sustainability aims of Hazlehead Park.

I am also concerned about the impact on road safety due to the increased traffic along the two main access roads, Hazledene Road and Hazlehead Avenue. Both of these roads have to be crossed by the many children who go to Hazlehead Primary and Hazlehead Academy from the Craigiebuckler area. Their safety should not be compromised. Similarly the many local people and tourists who visit Hazlehead Park, the sports fields and the golf course would also be put at increased risk. The numbers are particularly high at weekends and during holiday times — just the times when there would be the most traffic due to the development.

In 2009 there was the prospect of Hazlehead Golf Course, Park and environs being privatised. This was turned down. The Hazlehead area is a priceless heritage for the City of Aberdeen, and should continue to be treasured for the peace and beauty that it offers so many different people – citizens and visitors, old and young, able and disabled. It should not be despoiled by a large and unnecessary commercial development. I do hope that you will reject the application for this development.

Yours sincerely, Elizabeth Lindsey