



The Wokingham Society

Registered with the Civic Trust, Affiliated to CPRE, the Open Spaces Society
& Registered as a Charity (No. 274988)
Website: www.wokinghamsociety.org.uk

20th February 2009

Dear fellow member

We are writing to advise you that it is with regret that the Trustees of the Wokingham Society have decided to withdraw their application for part of Elms Field to become a town green. This was done after long and very careful consultation both with our solicitors and with a barrister who specialises in these types of applications.

The very firm advice given was that our application would have no prospect of success as Wokingham Borough Council had obtained this area in 1956 under local government legislation which meant that usage by the public was in effect by permission of the Council. In view of the fact that any application would involve the society in a large financial outlay and that the outlook was not favourable, we were informed on advice from our solicitors that as Trustees of the J H Elliston Clifton Fund, members of the Committee might incur personal liability if, despite advice, we continued with a town green application.

The Wokingham Society is pledged to safeguarding the open green space in Elms Field as much as it possibly can. In his conclusion, the barrister we consulted said that while he knew the Wokingham Society would be disappointed that his decision was that the town green application would be unsuccessful, we might perhaps like to consider using our funds to oppose unsuitable planning applications regarding this space. Your Committee will of course be giving very careful consideration to our next step.

Yours sincerely,

Tina Marinos

Chairman Wokingham Society.