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Dame Eliza Manningham-Buller
Chair of the Board of Governors, The Wellcome Trust
Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

9 February 2019

Dear Dame Eliza,

I am writing as Chair of Hinxton Parish Council to you as Chair of the Board of Governors of the Wellcome Trust. We wish to arrange a meeting with you.

As you know, the Wellcome Trust has submitted a planning application to expand beside its Hinxton Hall Genome Campus. It is proposed broadly to triple the extent of the Campus and its workforce and to increase the number of households in our village tenfold. I am attaching Hinxton's statement of objection to South Cambridgeshire District Council. Nearby parish councils have registered similar objections.

We object with much regret. Our village takes great pride in the work of the Campus and would be happy to see its scientific research activity continue to expand on the site. But this application is for something quite different. It is a means for the Wellcome Trust to raise revenue by leasing property to commercial firms. There is no need for such activity to be on this site. Cambridgeshire has many suitable business parks within easy reach of your Campus' science.

The proposed development would inflict enormous costs on our village and others nearby. Its scale is too great, and the infrastructural mitigation measures proposed are far too slight with regard to traffic, environment and landscape. The arguments to the contrary used by your consultants in the application are dishonest in ways you would not tolerate for a moment from your scientists.

We have been shocked by the lack of effective consultation with Hinxton. We have long enjoyed excellent relations with the Genome Campus and with those who manage the Wellcome-owned land surrounding our village. But during the purported consultation process your developers have seen fit not to moderate but to expand the very features on which we have expressed greatest concern.

We would hope that the Wellcome Trust might appreciate the importance of maintaining the goodwill of the community in which its Genome Campus is embedded. We would certainly expect your Trust to consider the substantial reputational risk implied by its gratuitously damaging our village for financial gain.

A useful first step in responding to our concerns would be your agreement to meet with representatives of Hinxton village as soon as possible. I look forward to your reply.

Yours,



William Brown
Chair, Hinxton Parish Council