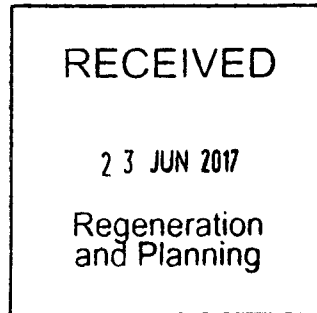
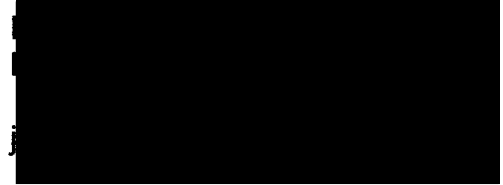


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ACTION BY:
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Malcesine
46 Conybeare Road
Sully
Vale of Glamorgan
CF64 5US



17th June 2017

Mrs Y J Pritchard
Planning Department
of the Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Docks Offices, Barry Docks,
Barry, CF63 4RT.

Dear Mrs Pritchard

2016/01441/FUL Cosmeston Lakes and Country Park, Lavernock Road, Penarth.


I understand a plan is being developed to create a wakeboarding sporting facility at Cosmeston Lakes Country Park with the aim of making the Park a commercial enterprise for the Vale of Glamorgan. I strongly object to this plan which would install an electric cable wakeboarding system, equipment and mechanical store, as well as male and female changing areas near to the Cosmeston Visitors' Centre.

I cannot believe that any Councillor would think that a wakeboarding facility in this area would be popular. The few additional people who would go to Cosmeston Lakes and Country Park to enjoy such a sporting attraction would be far outweighed by the vast numbers of local residents and those who come from further afield who would stop attending. The title of the park, Cosmeston Lakes and Country Park, says it all. This park was developed for people of all ages to use. At the present time the young, the middle aged and the elderly enjoy the park and go to the café for an ice-cream or some refreshments. Those who would use the wakeboarding facilities are far less likely to use the café.

As far as building male and female changing rooms are concerned, swimming in the lake has always been considered dangerous due to the depth and temperature of the water and the steep sides of the lake. As Councillors must know, the Country Park was once a quarry filled with hazardous rubbish. Building changes rooms would give out the wrong message to users that would contradict the Vale of Glamorgan Council's own signage around the Lakes that swimming is prohibited. After the recent event at Glenfell Tower in Kensington, all Councillors should be considering health and safety issues with added care.

The original plan of having one lake with more popular facilities such as a children's play area, a barbeque area and a café and the other lake left in a more natural state so that visitors could enjoy peace and tranquillity has worked well for thirty years. The proposed development will have an adverse effect on the Country Park's intrinsic character and beauty and is likely to damage the qualifying features of this site as a site of Special Scientific Interest and a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The wildlife and plant life that inhabit the Country Park and Lakes would clearly be disturbed by the wash and noise generated by the wakeboarders. When most of the rest of the world is looking to encourage people to think about protecting the environment not destroy it, this plan is surely sending out an incorrect message. There are other areas where such a facility could be built which would be much more suitable than at Cosmeston Lakes and Country Park.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area. Above the box, there are faint, handwritten scribbles in black ink.

Jean Bispham (Mrs)

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