

[REDACTED]

From: Thorne, Chris (Ceidwadwyr Cymreig – Swyddfa'r Grŵp | Welsh Conservatives – Group Office) [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 June 2017 13:38
To: Planning; Thomas, John W (Cllr)
Cc: Michael Garland; David Roberts
Subject: Objection - Wakeboarding proposal at Cosmeston Lakes - 2016/01441/FUL

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Mrs Pritchard,

I write in relation to the planning application referenced 2016/01441/FUL to record my objections to the proposals.

In my view, the plans, which include a wakeboarding facility, do not fit with the current amenity and outstanding offering at Cosmeston Lakes Country Park.

The facility is one of the area's finest attractions and is widely recognised as such, not just by those in the local community but also by visitors from afar.

As you'll be aware, the park is home to a range of habitats including species-rich calcareous and neutral grasslands, scrub, hedgerows, woodland, streams and ponds which all support a wide assemblage of species and is designated as a site of Special Scientific Interest (0518) and also a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (301).

The Country Park supports a resident population of Mute Swans, Canada Geese, Gulls and Coot, Moorhen, Sedge Warbler, Reed Bunting, Mallard and other wildfowl and also supports and protects a rare plant called Starry stonewort.

The proposed development will have an adverse effect on the conservation value of the site and is likely to damage the qualifying features of this site as a site of Special Scientific Interest and also a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. In my view, this is unacceptable.

Many residents have also expressed significant concerns in relation to the impact this will have on both the noise and visual elements at the Park.

The true character of Cosmeston is very much at risk with these proposals and with local road infrastructure already at breaking point, it is difficult to see how these changes will enhance our local community.

In closing, it is also worth noting the signage currently displayed at the site – installed by the Vale of Glamorgan Council – which points to the dangers of 'swimming' at the lakes.

Given these safety concerns, it would seem strange that wakeboarding would be permitted when swimming at the site has traditionally been viewed as dangerous due to the cold temperature of the water, the steep sides and depth of the Lakes. These concerns should not be swept away at the behest of boosting the coffers.

Thank you in advance for noting these objections.

With kind regards,

Chris Thorne

Sully Community Council

