

Item 12, pages 6-18  
18/506258/FULL  
Mote Park Maidstone

### **Local Representations**

An objection has been received from Mote Park Fellowship making the following points (summarised)

- Totally opposed –our opposition was registered at the initial display
- Environmental catastrophe that will lose the Park its Green Flag status
- The River Len does not have the volume of water that would cause any threat to a building – only risk is when Leeds Castle purges its lake
- Both Lakes originated as fish ponds and do not need for a formal dam, the intervening land is natural and was the original line of the Maidstone to Ashford Road before its diversion to the north.
- Only 1 Site notice was displayed
- Waste of public money
- MBC’s representative has not attended the meetings of the Mote Park Fellowship during November 2018- January 2019.

### **Appraisal**

The application includes an assessment of the Lake in terms of the Reservoirs Act 1975 by Black & Veatch Ltd which is an established engineering, procurement, consulting and construction company. In the UK, it is a flood alleviation partner for the Environment Agency and local authorities. I am satisfied that their assessment of the risk is accurate and that the weight attributed to health and safety as a material consideration in the committee report is evidenced.

One site notice was displayed at the southern extent of the application site, near the picnic area on the main circular route around the lake where the pedestrian footfall is significant. In addition, a press notice was published and 33 notification letters were sent to nearby properties. I am therefore satisfied that statutory publicity requirements for this type of development have been adhered to.

Other matters raised such as the cost to MBC and MBC’s non- attendance at recent Fellowship meeting are not land use planning matters.

### **RECOMMENDATION UNCHANGED**