

5 Helmsdale
Woking
Surrey
GU21 3HT

J Sainsbury's Brookwood
Redding Way
Knaphill
Woking

Saturday 25th July 2009

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a Knaphill councillor for Woking Borough Council I receive a variety of concerns from local residents on a weekly basis. I have recently received a number of complaints and expressions of concern about the use of the J Sainsbury's Brookwood car park in the evening and night time by drivers reported to be predominantly young people. I do not doubt that you are as concerned by this as local residents and wonder what plans you have to deal with this matter.

Residents' concerns are two fold, firstly, concerns surround the noise generated by the anti-social behaviour that some of those congregating in the car park create and secondly, concerns reflect a worry that if the car park becomes a more popular location for young drivers to meet it may prove to be a new 'Guildford cruise' encouraging an ever larger number of drivers to attend.

With the above in mind, have you considered putting a barrier or some form of gate in place on the entrance and exits for the Sainsbury's and Homebase car parks to be closed at night, allowing traffic to flow to the petrol station? Although a significant investment, it may prove, in the long-term to be a worth while investment for the reputation of J Sainsbury's Brookwood.

Last summer it was the Vyne field car park and Vyne field near to your store that was the centre of local congregation for young people. Work with the local Police and the Knaphill Residents association has resulted in a much reduced impact of young people in this area. One such initiative has been the introduction of a weekly Youth Café on a Monday evening at the Vyne Community Centre. The Youth Café is run entirely by volunteers and is in much need of donations to help provide young people with things to do while at the Café. If you are able and willing to make a donation please do let me know and I will pass it on to the Knaphill Residents Association for them to contact you.

I do not wish this letter to be seen in a negative light and would like to commend the use of re-usable bags by customers to your store. These will have a positive environmental impact in reducing plastic bags sent to landfill as well as reducing the number of trees in the surrounding area littered with bags, another concern of local residents. It would be even more commendable if these bags were produced in a more easily biodegradable material. I have a bag and am pleased to use it.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Olly Wells