



The Planning Officer
Waverley Borough Council
Western Planning Committee
BY EMAIL

31 October 2021

Dear Sir

Technology House (WA/2021/02406) - Objection

The Haslemere Society wishes to object to this application on the following grounds:

1. **Parking.** The proposal includes 6 parking spaces against a required 16 (as per the pre-application advice). This is justified on the basis that there are no restrictions to on-street parking and a public car park opposite. In fact, while there are no formal restrictions to parking, the road is narrow and fairly busy so that on-street parking here would undoubtedly cause a significant nuisance. We note that the photos of the site included in the application show no cars parked on the street. The 'public' car-park opposite is, in reality, owned by the church and not open to the public. All the overflow from the wholly inadequate parking provided will therefore be onto the public street. Furthermore, no provision at all is made for the retail unit so that both customers and delivery vehicles will have to park on the street.

The Society notes that it is getting rather tedious to read yet another planning application where inadequate parking is justified on environmental grounds when it is perfectly plain that it is simply impossible to fit more parking onto the site.

2. **Design of the new building.** On the applicant's own sketches the design appears significantly more intrusive and bulky than the existing building.
3. **Risk to amenity of local residents.** The proposed communal green roof space, if used, is likely to create a noise nuisance for neighbours in adjacent properties, particularly in the summer. This space also increases the potential for overlooking.

In the Society's view, the first issue listed here, in line with the comments given in the pre-application advice, is sufficient on its own to require refusal of this application. This is not a one-off: it is very common to see applications with insufficient parking provision and particularly to see applications that make little or no provision for deliveries, visitors and services vehicles. The area already suffers significantly from congestion at busy times making further on-street parking inadmissible as a solution. The town's shopping areas also need nearby parking and local public parking provision appears likely to get worse rather

than better, since two parking sites are included in LPP2 as potential development sites. It is therefore essential that any new developments, whether residential or commercial, should be self-sufficient in parking. We therefore strongly urge the Council to reject this application.

Yours Sincerely



Sonja Dullaway
(on behalf of The Haslemere Society Planning Group)