

PLANNING REF : 250543
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 16 Chackfield Drive
: 16 Chackfield D Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG415PH
SUBMITTED BY : Dr Mohamed Kharbouch
DATE SUBMITTED : 22/03/2025

COMMENTS:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my strong support for the planning application submitted by the Muslim community in Wokingham to establish an Islamic community centre and mosque at Unit 4, Winnersh Fields Gazelle Close Winnersh Wokingham RG41 5QS.

I have been a resident of Wokingham for 33 years, and the Muslim population has been steadily increasing. According to the 2018 census, Muslims comprised 4% of the Wokingham population. Therefore, it is time for Muslims to have a place of worship in the Wokingham area.

People who are against this application believe that Islamic centres in Reading, Slough, and Maidenhead should satisfy the Wokingham Muslim community. However, they clearly do not understand the specific needs of Muslims in Wokingham. The establishment of a local community centre and mosque is crucial for providing a convenient and accessible place of worship and community activities for the Muslim residents in this area.

As a resident of Wokingham, I believe that the establishment of this community centre and mosque will bring numerous benefits to our town. It will serve as a vital hub for social, cultural, and educational activities, fostering a sense of unity and inclusivity among the diverse population of Wokingham. The centre will provide a space for people of all ages to engage in meaningful dialogue, learn about different cultures, and participate in community-building activities.

Moreover, the mosque will offer a place of worship for the Muslim community, allowing them to practice their faith in a safe and welcoming environment. This is essential for promoting religious tolerance and understanding within our town.

Regarding concerns about parking and traffic, I am confident that the leaders of the project will work closely with the council to find a resolution to these issues. They are committed to ensuring that the community centre and mosque are seamlessly integrated into the local area, causing minimal inconvenience to residents.

The proposed community centre and mosque may also contribute to the local economy by creating job opportunities and attracting visitors to Wokingham. It will enhance the town's reputation as a place that values diversity and supports the needs of all its residents.

I urge the Wokingham Borough Council to approve this planning application, recognising the positive impact it will have on our

community. Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mohamed Kharbouch