

PLANNING REF : 250543
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Loxwood
:
: RG6 5QZ
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Moaheed Sajid
DATE SUBMITTED : 02/04/2025

COMMENTS:

I would like to express my support for this application for a community centre

Regarding concerns about the proximity of the Gurdwara and Masjid, similar arrangements exist on London Road, where both centres maintain a positive relationship and collaborate effectively to minimize traffic issues, such as by sharing parking facilities.

While some comments mention the presence of multiple mosques in the area, our growing community requires additional centres to better distribute congregational needs and community services across multiple locations.

MCCW is not just a place of worship; it plays a vital role in the community by organizing regular youth events that foster compassion, resilience, and a strong sense of purpose among young people. Additionally, it hosts adult and multi-faith events that promote inclusivity and cohesion within the wider community.

The submitted documentation confirms that events will be scheduled outside of business hours, minimizing any potential impact on local businesses. This model has already been successfully implemented in Bracknell.

It is important to acknowledge that any community facility whether a school, religious centre, or supermarket can lead to increased traffic. However, placing such a facility outside residential areas helps mitigate disruption. Furthermore, as a volunteer at Aisha Masjid myself, I can attest that MCCW already have people actively working to minimise traffic disruption. The management also encourage the use of walking and car sharing.

As potential users of this facility we are aware that Halfords/Wickes car parks will be reserved for customers and these would not be available to users of the community centre. We would also not want to encroach on the parking of other businesses on site.

Concerns have also been raised regarding wash and ablution facilities. In practice, most attendees perform these rituals at home, meaning any impact on local amenities will be minimal.

Finally, Wokingham has a significant proportion of highly educated professionals within the Muslim community, who contribute positively through initiatives such as additional tuition to support children's academic success. This investment in education ensures that future generations will continue to thrive and contribute meaningfully to society and more importantly Wokingham.