

PLANNING REF : 252498
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 1 Sevenoaks Road
: Reading, Berkshire
: RG6 7NT
SUBMITTED BY : Dr Stephen Froud
DATE SUBMITTED : 08/01/2026

COMMENTS:

As a local resident, while I am supportive of this project to provide the additional housing needed in our local area, impressed with the engagement of the university of Reading with the local community, and pleased with the higher level of Community related activities mentioned in the application, there appears to be a serious omission regarding the facilities included in Class F (Local Community and Learning); Namely a place of worship. Looking both at the churches in Reading and those in more recent developments (Lower Earley, Shinfield) one can see that level of engagement within a community from churches within the last decades has transformed from Sunday worship to include community activities provided on almost every day of the week. These include toddler groups, food banks, warm spaces, coffee mornings for the elderly, singing groups, board games and other clubs. Whilst it can be argued that these can be housed within community buildings, the advantage of a church is that the attendees provide a free pool of resource for running these activities at minimal or no cost to those who attend these additional Community activities - The churches providing both the volunteers and the funding. It would be a serious omission if the planning process did not include reference to a place of worship in the list of Class F (Local Community and Learning) facilities that must be included for a healthy, modern community.