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From: M [REDACTED] Grut [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 October 2018 16:56
To: Future Merton <Future.Merton@merton.gov.uk>
Subject: Future Wimbledon Masterplan – Greening of Wimbledon – Feedback

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have with interest studied the above-mentioned consultation document, and I wonder if the following principles in connection with the greening of Wimbledon would be of interest to you. They focus on saving money and reducing noise. (I live on an estate where the noise of cutting and leaf-blowing is overwhelming, and the service charge correspondingly high.)

1. Please make good use of flowering shrubs. They make for example Washington DC very attractive, especially in spring. Do not cut them into triangles, squares and other shapes (topiary) because that is noisy and expensive.
2. Please also make good use of evergreen trees. They shed much less leaves, and thus reduce the need for costly and noisy leaf blowing and collection, and also the risk of pedestrians slipping and falling. There are many evergreen tree species suitable for Wimbledon – more and more with global warming. The tree nurseries can provide advice. In Bournemouth, Rome and parts of Wimbledon even pines are used.
3. If a tree will grow big, please do not plant it in a space that is too small to accommodate it in the long term. That will lead to later pruning or topping, which is expensive, noisy (chainsaws) and dangerous, and which can lead to wood-rotting fungi entering the tree through the pruning wounds. For areas which cannot accommodate big trees, there are many small tree species, evergreen or otherwise. This point and the previous one would save money for the Council and reduce noise from leaf blowing and tree cutting.

Yours sincerely,
M [REDACTED] Grut [REDACTED]

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