

'Leave our land alone'



A COMMUNITY is campaigning to save a piece of land which was left to the people of Hyde.

The land, which backs on to Dukinfield Golf Club, is known as Waldorf playing fields and was gifted to the community by a local company in 1973.

Golf club bosses now want the covenant lifted so they can buy the land to extend their course, but the plans have met with anger from local residents.

Caroline Eastwood, who lives on nearby Talbot Road, collected around 200 objections from the families, walkers, dog owners and horse riders who regularly use the land.

She presented the petition to Tameside Council on Tuesday ahead of the closing date for objections today (Thursday).

"Absolutely everybody is up in arms about it, it's an absolute disgrace," she said.

"It's a public right of way and people come from all over to use that land.

"It's a nice walk through to Cheetham's Park and it's one of the few places left where kids can run around and play.

"It's our open space which was gifted to the community, not for members of a private club."

John Parker, who lives just yards

Community battle to save green space

away from the fields, is also against the proposed sale.

If given the go-ahead, it would leave only one of the three fields for children to play in which is the closest to the road.

"It's quite simple. It's nothing to do with the golf club, our gripe is with the council and they should not be selling the land," he said.

"My question for the council is why?"

"It's not necessary and it will deprive the community and future generations of a valuable resource."

Tameside Council confirmed that the golf club had been granted planning permission to extend the course last year.

A spokesman said: "Anyone can apply for planning permission without actually owning the land in question.

"The golf club is now trying to acquire land from the council and discussions have been ongoing.

"Any comments or objections received will be included in a report which will go to the cabinet deputy Councillor Kieran Quinn, who will make the final decision."



FIGHT on our hands: Residents in the Matley Lane area are angry over plans to turn green fields into part of a golf club. Pictured is nearby resident Pauline Smith, with John Parker in the background

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