

Dear Councillor

I write to express my dismay at the Council's recently revealed plan for our precious Promenade Park.

Whilst there are plenty of visitor-attractions halfway down the Prom, the very end of it has always been the more natural, tranquil area, with the splendid statue of Byrhtnoth as its main feature. This sight is only enhanced by the small boats who sail from here, but now the Council want to remove the sailing and kayaking in order to gain more revenue.

Why would any riverside Council want to get rid of the only dinghy sailing club in the town?

I totally understand the need to gain income, but surely there are other sites on the Prom that could be *tastefully* put to better use without removing a valued local amenity.

I also believe that the siting of such buildings as beach huts and toilets in this area will lead to increased vandalism, drug dealing etc. as it is quite a hard area to police. For absolute proof of this, how much Council money has already been thrown at the bird-watching facility in the same area in order to make it safe after several acts of vandalism? Maldon Yacht Club themselves have had many instances of theft and damage during their tenure, all requiring replacement or repairing at their own expense.

The best use for the reclaimed land at the end of the Prom is without doubt the use it is currently being put to. Sailing is in harmony with the surroundings and does no harm to the environment. It also hugely beneficial to the health of our community, both physical and mental.

I ask you to please urge to the Council to reconsider this ill-judged scheme and grant a minimum 5-year lease to the Maldon Yacht Club.

Yours sincerely,