

**TM/07/01286/FL -
West Kent College, Brook Street, Tonbridge**

The society supports this application with the following observations:

1. The extensive improvement to the existing educational buildings is to be welcomed.
2. The application places a variety of facilities into a coordinated structure: this will give the present site greater cohesion.
3. Provision of a multi-purpose performance centre, with easy public access, will be a useful asset to the college and community.
4. The society would like to have seen a more immediately appealing architectural design: it has some misgivings about the flat-roofed and boxed features, while recognizing that the landscape qualities of the site may mitigate this aspect of its appearance.
5. There is local concern about the lack of on-site parking to satisfy student and staff demand: it is hoped that a robust transport/travel plan can be implemented, involving all Brook Street requirements. The society would like to see better and safer cycleway access and cycle storage.
6. Although selling-off adjacent land is necessary to fund the development, there is concern that this will constrain future expansion of the college. It would be useful to have some on-site hostel accommodation for students.
7. We gratefully acknowledge the excellent consultation conducted by West Kent College with governors, senior staff, planners and architects in attendance and accessible.

22 July 2007