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To: *Constituents via email*

25<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**Update on the Porcupine public house site in Mottingham Village**

On Thursday 20th June, I held talks with LiDL's National Director to discuss the future of the Porcupine site.

We had a very frank and honest conversation about the manner in which LiDL proposed to demolish the Porcupine building without first acquiring planning approval for any subsequent redevelopment on the site. On the back of this meeting, I am pleased to confirm that LiDL have agreed to abandon its efforts to secure immediate demolition approval via the 'Part 31 notification' route. Instead, it will be submitting a full planning application that will cover both demolition and redevelopment.

This ensures that residents and elected members will be given a meaningful opportunity to scrutinise and comment on LiDL's plans, once these have been submitted to Bromley Council. It also keeps alive the possibility that the Porcupine could be reopened as a pub if LiDL's application is unsuccessful.

I am grateful to LiDL's National Director for accepting my recommendation and for realising that it is in everyone's interest that we remove the threat of immediate demolition. We can now move forward and ensure that the merits of LiDL's proposals are tested via our planning system before any demolition work is allowed to proceed.

The Porcupine pub is an incredibly precious community asset in the very heart of Mottingham Village and it is vital that residents stand ready to get involved in the forthcoming application process. It has taken a huge amount of hard work on your behalf to get us to a position where we can have a proper say in the future of this site, so let's take full advantage of this opportunity.

Once the full application has been submitted to the council, Cllr Charles Rideout, Cllr Roger Charsley and I will be writing to local residents with further information about how you can review LiDL's plans and submit comments to the council.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

**Bob Neill MP**