

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

23. Properties located at 1922-1930 Mallard Road and surrounding properties zoned Open Space (OS4) (OZ-8306)
- David Williamson, 1922 Mallard Road, applicant – expressing support for the application; advising that he originally purchased his property in 1990; indicating that the property was zoned Light Industrial; advising that he received a building permit and he built a 12,240 square foot building on it; indicating that he lost his zoning in 1995; indicating that it has been a huge problem for them; noting they have been having trouble getting insurance for the building and for the businesses that continue to grow there; noting that there are at least four businesses operating from that property; and, expressing appreciation to the Council and City staff in approving the remedial works that had to take place in order for this zoning to be changed.
  - Anna Maria Valastro, 1 – 133 John Street – indicating that she does not believe that a lot of Councillors have been to this site; advising that the topsoil has been removed from the site; noting that you can tell that the topsoil has been removed recently due to the lack of vegetation; indicating that, with what is happening on the property, it seems like the applicant assumes that Council is going to rubber stamp the application; indicating that she spoke with the neighbours on South Carriage Road; noting that she went door-to-door over the weekend; understanding that the area residents were never notified that there was a public meeting on this site; advising that these are the residents that cycle and bird watch in this area; understanding that only the commercial property owners were consulted on this; acknowledging that the Notice was on the City of London website; however, not a lot of people check the website on a regular basis unless they are very involved in municipal issues; showing another view of the property that is being prepared for a structure; advising that this is before it has been voted on and before it has been to a public meeting; reiterating that you can tell from the lack of vegetation growth that the clearing of the land is recent; showing photographs of what the property looked like before it was scraped down; advising that it had full grown trees and established vegetation growth on it; reiterating that this is the exact same site as the site in the previous photographs; advising that there was a thriving significant amphibian habitat on it as well as hawks, great blue herons and deer; indicating that the creek that used to be there has been reduced to a rubble shore embankment and it is just a trickle now; showing photographs of the storm sewer pond; noting that you can see the huge pile of gravel at the other end; indicating that there is a bicycle path there; noting that people do use the bicycle path; further noting that some people from the South Carriage community walk along the bicycle path; indicating that the City has planted some native Brown Eyed Susans on the other side of the dirt pile; noting that there is a bird on the post; showing photographs of what it used to look like and what it looks like now; indicating that it was a thriving natural environment; advising that, unlike the Southwest Area Plan, where the City is planning for ecological corridors, bike paths and green spaces for people, that did not happen when this community was designed; noting that it was designed piecemeal, it is cluttered with storm sewer ponds and a few trees get planted; expressing concern with the lack of public outreach, research on how this was used and how it is currently being used, the lack of a cohesive plan on how you are going to use green space in this part of the city; expressing concern with the fact that construction has already begun prior to a public meeting and prior to going to the Planning and Environment Committee meeting; asking the Planning and Environment Committee to look into whether or not the green space, in this part of the City, meets the quota for green space and to look at the significant corridors already established in the City of London Natural Heritage Map and how this can actually be included as green space and connected to other green spaces that are still untouched in this part of the city; asking the Planning and Environment Committee to designate this area as Open Space and rehabilitate it so that it increases green space within this community because it was not planned the way the City's Southwest zone where you are designating and recognizing that there is social value as well as environmental value to having connected

green spaces; reiterating that that never happened in this Hyde Park community; indicating that it was green and people utilized it that way and it brought a lot of social value to the neighbourhood; reiterating that the applicant obviously thinks that the Committee is going to be rubber stamping the application, when you have not been there and you have not done the research to see if there is enough green space to meet the quota for this community; requesting the Committee do the research before making a decision on this matter; advising that the photographs were taken from behind Woodcock Drive, which is a really small area; advising that you can see, from her presentation, the storm sewer, the gravel pit and the buildings; noting that it is not a very big space; indicating that you cannot drive by that area, you have to walk into that area to really see that area; and, advising that, on the subject site map, you can see the ponds and in the photographs, you saw the pond and in the horizon, you saw the site. (See attached photographs.)