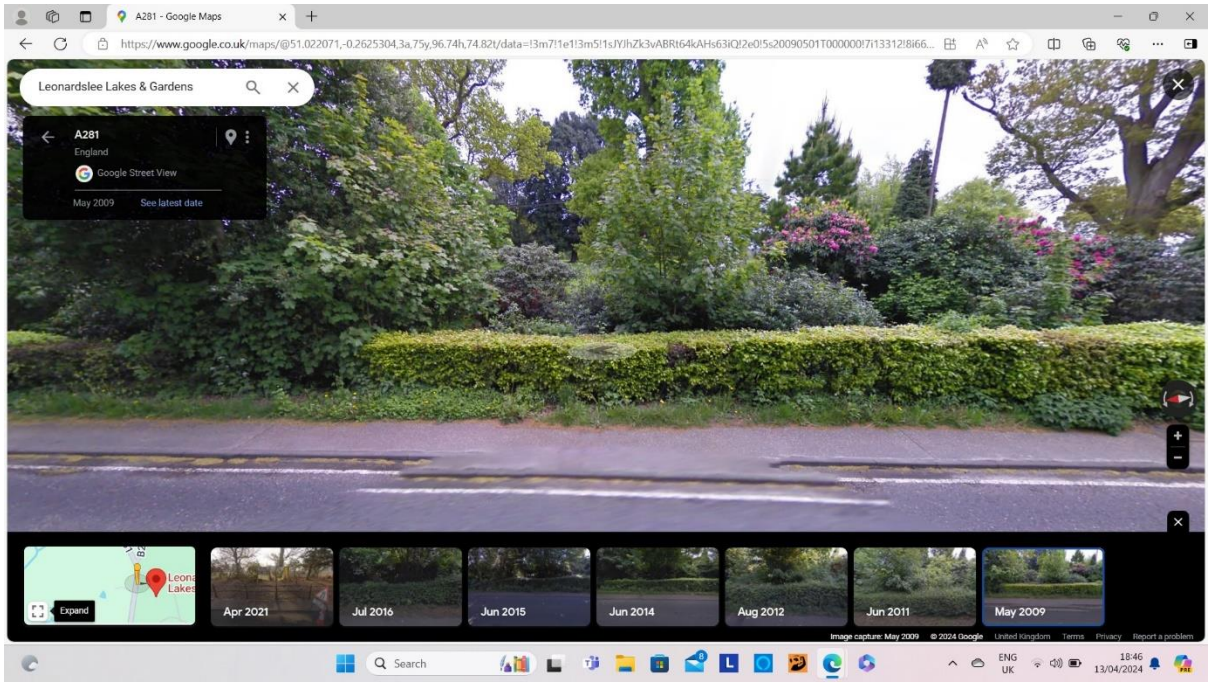
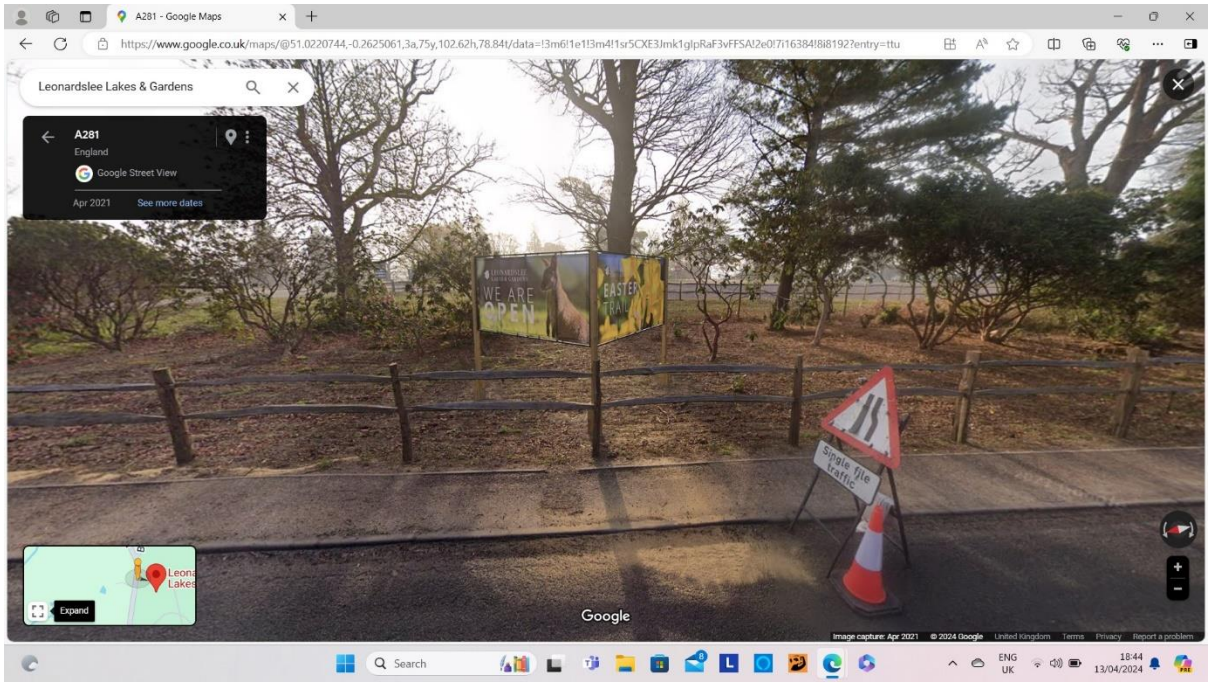
Comment on DC/24/0088 Leonardslee Gardens

Those local residents who remember this Grade 1 garden as it used to be valued its beauty and tranquillity. The google image below shows how it looked from its boundary with the A281 in 2009.



Local residents deeply regret the aggressive commercialisation of this garden by the current owners. In effect, they have turned the site into a theme park by removing trees, hedges and grass and replacing them with extensive parking and visual litter, and introducing fun fares and other activities that cause noise and annoyance to others.

The image below shows the same location in 2021 and as this was during the Covid lockdown, it does not also show the acres of parked cars. The visual deterioration since 2009 is very evident.



I oppose any further commercialisation of this site because it detracts so much from this Grade 1 garden, diminishes local residents' enjoyment of their own homes and the former tranquillity of the area.

Therefore, I oppose any advertising hoardings at all. In the age of the internet and social media, they are not even needed.

Additionally, I particularly object to the owners undertaking development work without first obtaining Planning Permission and "playing the long game" by putting in amendments like this one or further applications in the hope that local people will lose interest and cease objecting. It is a cynical manoeuvre that should not succeed and I trust HDC will refuse this present amendment forthwith.

[redacted]