

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 28 November 2018 21:36
To: _WEB_Customer Services
Subject: For the attention of [REDACTED] (head of stroud council)

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]

I'm writing in relation to the review of the local plan that I have just seen..

I live in a small rural village called Sharpness(near Berkeley) and was horrified to see the proposals for the area-this would affectively be an end to the lovely quiet countryside villages of Newtown, Sharpness, Brookend, Wanswell and would virtually merge all of them into one,virtually joining us on to Berkeley itself.

This development from the same people (hunter page/green square group etc.) has been applied for in varying amounts of houses for the last few years, starting at 1500 houses and over the years down to 375, 350 and the last one was for 50 houses in Newtown opposite to the recent Mallards development-each time it has, rightly so, been refused....but instead of that being the end of it, we then get the inevitable appeal, then it gets sent to the secretary of state etc..

This time they have come back with an even more ridiculous plan, that I hear from parish councillors was the "preferred choice"of your predecessor [REDACTED]

Whilst I know it's not just down to you to make this decision, hopefully you will see this in a different way and be able to influence the outcome of this local plan review. We, only three years ago, had a 'new' adopted local plan and our share of housing was the 300 on sharpness docks site, now we have an additional 5000!

I realize that nowhere wants these developments, but the reality of allowing something of this magnitude is that it would, regardless of the attempts of the developers to claim to provide employment opportunities, effectively be a commuter town...and with the 200 or so houses already being built/built in Berkeley-these were not even on the existing plan- and the 300 planned by Sharpness docks site-these also are totally in the wrong place and the access through small village roads would cause chaos-plus the huge Howard Tennens warehouse at Sharpness that was snuck though the planning process without hardly any locals being made aware of this-this will be right on the banks of the river and blocks even more

of the river view from the village- surely the traffic impact of this lot should be monitored before an additional development like this is even contemplated?

There is, as I'm aware, no plans for the final link of the Berkeley by-pass, so the already treacherous Alkington lane and Berkeley heath roads to the A38 will be a nightmare long before these horrendous plans for 5000 houses. With all these extra vehicle movements due to the obvious lack of employment opportunities in the area, this would make much more sense nearer to the M5 or at least on the A38 and not dragging any more vehicles on what will be already strained/inadequate roads

Also one of the reasons of refusing the last 50 house application in Newtown was regarding the SSSI,RAMSAR site of the river Severn and the negative impact this would have had on it regarding wildlife etc....with that being the case, how on earth could this ever be considered?

This development would also be destroying prime farmland, which surely with an increasing population will be needed in years to come?As a member of the CPRE I know there is enough suitable brownfield sites for 1 million houses, plus these developers already have masses of land banked with planning permission already(Newport Towers springs to mind)-make them use these before signing away yet more of our green space just so they can maximise profit.

Sharpness to Berkeley is, at the moment, a beautiful area full of a wide variety of habitat full of wildlife- dormice, just for one example- which are classed as vulnerable status, were found to be present on the site at Newtown.

I know I speak for the vast majority of the village(s) in saying that this is an unwanted development/destruction of a whole way of life.

Like I said earlier, all the reasons for the last refusal still remain, so I hope that this proposal will be refused again .

Regards

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