

13th January 2020



To Planning department, Stroud District Council re: Wisloe Green

Dear Sirs,

I would like to express my dismay at the proposed development in Cam & Wisloe Green which we have recently been advised is planned.

I have concerns on many levels which I will try to separate for clarity.

Firstly the land you intend to build on at Wisloe was, until very recently, classed as Grade 2 agricultural land and so it remains today. Crops are grown annually on these fields and animals are grazed. How on earth has it now, most conveniently, been reclassified as Grade 3b and therefore suitable for development. This is a very suspect move with questionable findings and frankly smacks of lazy planning to facilitate your plans with no thought or any consideration for local residents.

Secondly I am concerned about conservation and wildlife. I know from my walks around this area that wildlife abounds in this green corridor between the Motorway and the A38. It is an overspill for birds from the WWT and many other native species including a particularly handsome Barn Owl often to be seen flying at dusk in this area. Has any proper survey been done to determine what species of wildlife are in the designated area. I strongly doubt it.

Thirdly is the impact to what is still a rural community comprising of Cambridge and Slimbridge, Wisloe and Gossington. This development will effectively wipe out Cambridge altogether and cause huge problems in the already congested roads through Slimbridge. It will also create an unbroken urban development

from the Cotswold escarpment behind Dursley virtually down to the A38 and beyond. This is in nobody's interests, particularly as there is now no local employment and the entire monstrous development will simply become a dormitory for the bigger conurbations of Gloucester, Cheltenham and Bristol. The Severn Vale is viewed from Stinchcombe Hill, Cam Peak and Coaley Peak, all AONB, and this development will be, literally, a blot on the landscape, to the detriment of our beautiful county. It goes against the principles of good planning and indeed it smacks very much of lazy planning and taking the easy option.

Fourthly there is the issue of the drainage and foul water problems which are a recognised problem in the Slimbridge parish. I was fobbed off at a meeting in the village hall with "Severn Trent will have to sort it out". Severn Trent have been trying to sort it out for a number of years now to no avail and building on this scale will only exacerbate the problem. Can you not take a lesson from the Tewkesbury area which regularly floods and has not been helped by the increased and continued building in the area.

Fifthly and finally I am appalled at what I have always considered a flag flying Council for Green and environmental issues proposing such a monstrous development as this which is so obviously wrong on so many levels.

Please think again as this is not the way forward.

* would you please acknowledge receipt of