

HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Planning Inspectorate

Ref Section 62A/22//0007

Land South of Henham Road, Elsenham, Essex

Dear Inspector,

Henham Parish Council (HPC) would like to object to the planning application ref S62A/22/0007, 130 homes on land south of Henham Road, Elsenham, Essex.

The Parish of Henham abuts the proposed site and the consequence of allowing this development would have a serious affect on the residents of Henham. HPC would like to comment on the traffic situation in and around this site. There are only 2 exits from the site, one down Hall Road towards Stansted Airport, this exit relies on the owners of Stansted Airport allowing vehicles to enter the airport area to access the exit roads. The owners have indicated in the past that this exit is presently allowed but it could close at any time. This situation was recognised by an earlier Inspectors hearing which refused 3200 houses to be built in Elsenham which promoted this exit. The application was refused. The second and likely exit is through Stansted Mountfiddich, which involves a single carriageway controlled by traffic lights. This junction is a notorious bottleneck and has been the subject of concern in previous planning applications. The cumulative effect of the number of houses being built in Elsenham, plus the number already granted planning permission, gives the local Parish Councils grave concerns. Ask any resident, at random, if they see any sense on putting more and more vehicles through this junction and you would receive an astonished reply. It would be madness.

HPC has watched Elsenham grow since 2011 by astonishing numbers of houses. It has more than doubled in size, in an area with little infrastructure and appalling road structure. Yet Developers continue to submit development plans for more and more houses. This site is almost the last green space left in Elsenham, it is in the historic heart of Elsenham Cross, a most important historic site. It is also close to Elsenham Cross again a place of historical importance. The impact of this development site, as it is in the countryside, is disastrous. Elsenham has already become a sea of houses with little open spaces within the village.

HPC has watched the over development of Elsenham Village with great sadness. Surely the time has come for the planning authorities to say enough is enough and refuse this new attempt to increase its development any further.

Nicholas J Baker OBE
Chair
Henham Parish Council