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Sent: 22 September 2022 14:38
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref: S62A/22/0007

To whom it may concern

I write in relation to the proposed development of 130 homes by Countryside on the land off Henham Road. I would like to put to you the following objections to this proposal:

1. Overdevelopment of the village

In the past 6 years, over 800 new homes have been built / approved to be built in a small village that is Elsenham. This alongside over 3000 homes that have been built in the town of Bishops Stortford and many hundred in Stansted Mountfitchet.

There is only 1 main road in and out of the village, which has major traffic issues (which I will detail below) due to the age of our neighbouring village of Stansted Mountfitchet and as such the age of the road coming out of it.

There is also only 1 small convenience store which does not have capacity for any more people to attempt to visit it, so most people therefore have to drive out of the village to neighbouring areas to buy food (thus putting extra strain on other areas).

There is also only a small train station with 1 train every hour (1 every 30 minutes at rush hour) which is very overused and often very busy.

The quiet community that used to exist here is now gone, with fields that people used to enjoy walking around with their dogs being built on with no recognition of the need for green space for general mental wellbeing of residents. No extra green space or parks have been included in any developers plan to help accommodate for this taking away of valuable walking areas.

2. Lack of infrastructure

As mentioned above, there is no road infrastructure for the extra development of houses in this area. 130 more homes means at least 200 more cars on the road. Grove Hill is the main entrance / exit to the village and, despite having a weight limit already on this section of road, many HGVs regularly use it and cause untold misery to any regular car user trying to use it. An example is today at 12:45, despite the area by the traffic lights only accommodating 2 (possibly 3 cars), a large HGV was sat behind a row of 2 other cars. This meant that cars coming through the traffic lights up the hill were held for over 10 minutes whilst we tried to navigate around parked cars and this large lorry. It is much worse at rush hour with queues ranging up to 30 minutes to travel less than a few hundred metres.

Also, this proposed development is on the corner of a major intersection in Elsenham: between Henham Road and Hall Road, on the top of a steep hill with parked cars along Henham Road making many cars trying to get out of this intersection very hard. Many accidents have occurred here so it would be dangerous to put an entrance to the site anywhere near where it is currently proposed. This is considering there is currently a building site for 350 homes just up the road on Henham Road which is on a blind corner, which is currently at the starting phase and will add to the amount of cars (and so will not be accurately reflected in any studies done now).

3. Environmental impact

This site is on a hill which is currently used for grazing livestock and has a history of flooding. The bottom of Hall Road (where the end of this site is) regularly floods due to the runoff from this field. Therefore, alongside the fact that a footpath running through the field will be taken away, any houses built on this site will also either be severely flooded or the runoff will impact the road people have to drive through, or flood the neighbouring childrens farm (Daisy Mays Farm).

I hope the above information has been useful for you. Please do let me know if you have any queries and I look forward to reading that this proposal has been rejected.

Kind regards
Laura Bullas

Sent from my iPhone