

From: Christopher Shaw [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 November 2022 08:44
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: S62A/2022/0012 Land east of Station, Elsenham

Dear Sirs,

It is with great concern that I find myself having to write to you regarding the proposed further development of 200 houses at this location. It is not the first time we have had to do this, and it will probably not be the last, unfortunately, as developers do not take no for an answer. Not even from the SECRETARY OF STATE whom agreed with his Inspector on traffic issues that the volume of extra traffic to a village such a distance from employment was significant and unsustainable and refused permission.

The villages of Elsenham and Henham are very old and located in an area of very narrow and winding country roads where accidents are becoming more frequent due to increased traffic. Access to other local towns and amenities (such as Stansted) is also difficult due to very narrow winding roads and single lane access with traffic lights, due to buildings which causes significant congestion. The villages are not close to any real amenities and families with young children and the infirm/elderly have no choice but to drive to larger towns several miles away. There are no pavements or street lighting in the lanes so are increasingly dangerous to walk.

The transport assessments are completely different to that being experienced by local people. Is it the plan to make rural villages as congested as London and then blame the motorist.

Over many years Elsenham and Henham have seen a comparatively small amount of housing development due primarily to its poor infrastructure. This has allowed a level of controlled organic absorption that the infrastructure could just about cope with.

But that level has now well and truly been exceeded already.

Recent excessive developments to Elsenham and Henham has already far exceeded what the local area/infrastructure can reasonably cope with, notwithstanding the 350 new houses currently being built by Bloor homes on superb quality grade 1 agricultural land which in itself is an act of vandalism.

A planning application for 800 homes was refused by the Secretary of state in 2016 due to the inability of the surrounding infrastructure to cope.

This additional site would see the area potentially approve development of over 1000 dwellings in recent years which could not be reasonably expected to cope with a fraction of that in more normal times

The only thing that has changed since the last refusal is that the Developers have managed to find alternative methods (by multiple smaller applications) to achieve their goal of carpet bombing a totally unsuitable area with mass housing which the villages and infrastructure are not going to be able to cope with. But they do not care because they do not have to live there.

It seems to me that instead of building new towns from scratch with proper infrastructure to service it,(which would be the right thing to do) the idea is to completely overwhelm existing old country villages.

Developers love to paint rosy pictures of their new developments but do not have to put up with the consequences.

The local primary school is already full, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get an appointment at our village doctor surgery due to demand , the roads are more dangerous, and public transport facilities (buses) are almost non-existent and then have trouble getting around the lanes when they are running. I know this because I live here.

This is not nimbyism, just common sense.

I implore you to refuse this application once again.

Yours sincerely
Mr C R Shaw

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