

From: Brian Brooks [REDACTED]

Sent: 20 November 2022 16:07

To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Subject: Objection to planning application S62A/2022/0012 Land east of Station, Elsenham

Dear Sir/Madam/Etc,

Ref S62A/2022/0012

Please register my strong objection to this planning application for 200 houses on this site.

The extension to the already granted building on this site will even further change the character of the villages of Elsenham and Henham. The levels of building now being done in this area are changing the villages into a town. If people want to live in a town, then there are plenty of places that houses can be built around existing towns.

If the planning is allowed to go ahead, the villages will be swamped by the amorphous sprawl of soulless anonymity that is the style of these developments. Villages are precious - they need to be preserved.

This Uttlesford area has been subjected to massive development recently, exceeded only by development on the brown-field sites used for the Olympics. Our local infrastructure, roads, schools and surgery are already overloaded and about to be further stretched by the current 350 houses now being built. Houses keep being built, but no supporting infrastructure accompanies them.

Already we are used to having to think about the time of day in order to drive into Stansted. At commuting time in the mornings, and at school collection times the queue to get into Stansted can be hundreds of yards long. Space on the road in Stansted is constrained, so gridlocks already occur when a long vehicle is involved or cars do not leave enough room for vehicles to pass.

This site has been considered for development before, and for very good reasons it was turned down by the Secretary of State. The surrounding area has very specific bottlenecks of traffic and this application would further increase the size of a 350-house development which in itself will hugely increase the traffic problems in Stansted and Bishop's Stortford.

Elsenham does have a railway line and there is an hourly bus service to the airport and into Bishop's Stortford, but rural people always need cars; we do in fact go to destinations in addition to the Airport or Bishop's Stortford. Not taking car traffic into consideration is short sighted at best. Public transport is too expensive, too inflexible, too infrequent - simply inadequate as a solution for travelling in rural areas.

Please would you be respectful of village and rural life and be mindful of our stewardship of the countryside in this area. I urge you to reject this application.

Yours faithfully,

Brian Brooks (Dr)

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