

-----Original Message-----

From: Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 December 2022 11:17
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Section 62A Planning Application: S62A/2022/0014 Land west of Thaxted Road, Saffron Walden

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am disappointed to hear of more green space land being turned into housing.

Saffron Walden already has more than enough housing that the size and infrastructure of the town can cope with. This development will add to the weight of traffic and increase pollution levels, which are already too high at the junction of the Thaxted Road B184 and Radwinter road B1053.

It is my view that these houses are not needed and if you conducted a poll of Saffron Walden residents I believe the majority would be strongly against it.

Our council is run by Residents for Uttlesford and they were voted in to protect our community and maintain our quality of life here in this ancient Market town.

I would prefer to see the land used more constructively as in re-wilding. Planting more trees and the creation of a diverse habitat for wildlife.

If, as I suspect, that is too much too hope for, then reduce the amount of proposed houses and take out the three story apartments whilst maintaining a high level of green space, incorporating ponds and improved drainage to avoid heavy downpours causing run off onto the Thaxted Road. I have seen flooding caused by inadequate drainage at the stream by the side of the Kilns on the Thaxted road. Debris gets washed down off the fields and blocks the grillwork where it passes under the road. The water level rises and flooding is the result. The water then courses downhill into town causing problems for residents along the way.

Since moving to Saffron Walden almost forty years ago, I have witnessed the Town deteriorate as an attractive and practical place to live. This is due at least in part to loosing many practical high street shops, to be replaced by coffee shops, charity shops and far too many barbers. Out of town, and online shopping are only in part to blame. We have also lost many public houses for most of them to become residential properties. Allotment have been sacrificed for yet more housing and so there is a demand for more allotments...

Saffron Walden is not designed to accommodate heavy traffic such as heavy goods vehicles that I frequently see struggling to make the turn at the traffic lights on the high street. They come in from the north and frequently mount the pavement as they try to take the corner onto George Street.

I do hope common sense will prevail at the Planning Inspectorate and the proposed development is replaced with something that will benefit the existing

residents of our once lovely town and not add to their misery with increased traffic congestion and increased pollution.

Yours sincerely

Martin Folwell

