

From: Chris & Liz Blowers [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 September 2022 12:57
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection : Reference number S62A/22/0007 - Land to the south of Henham Road, Elsenham, Essex.

Sirs,

Reference number **S62A/22/0007**: Land to the south of Henham Road, Elsenham, Essex.

OBJECTION

Application by Countryside for 130 homes off Henham Road, Elsenham (field opposite the crown).

I strongly object and oppose the above Planning Application for the following reasons, not in any particular order:

This is the last, undeveloped GREEN space within Elsenham.

The land is within the historic heart of Elsenham/Elsenham Cross. Several Listed Buildings immediately border this site. The land currently gives clear views towards the church of St Mary's from the B1051. It is a quite magical and welcoming sight, especially when the Cross is lit during Advent and Christmas.

The field is currently used for the grazing of cattle and sheep, and provides many children and adults alike, much joy of living in a rural village. This cannot be taken away.

The site is also part of the Stansted Airport Countryside Protection Zone, a buffer to segregate Stansted Airport from the local villages and hamlets. I will repeat, PROTECTION ZONE.

The site itself has a very steep slope that falls away to Stansted Brook, a brook that floods. Daisy May's Farm, on the other side of the Brook has flooded several times. By removing the green fields and developing this site will cause yet more run off.

This application is for even more properties in an already, over developed VILLAGE. Hundreds and hundreds of houses have been built in the past 10 years, with many hundreds currently being built or approved awaiting development. Elsenham has doubled in size since 2011. No improvements to the community have been made. This has to stop! This application has to be refused outright.

The local roads, primarily the B1051 that links Thaxted, Henham and Elsenham to Stansted Mountfitchet and onwards to Bishop's Stortford, is extremely narrow in places (north of Elsenham towards Thaxted) with it being unable to cope with larger vehicles passing in either direction. The road carries a 60mph speed limit outside of Elsenham. The B1051 carries traffic from the other side of Thaxted (north of Elsenham), through to the nearest station at Stansted Mountfitchet. The station car parks are at capacity, the trains are also at capacity. ALL but ONE of the local Secondary Schools are in Bishop's Stortford, or at least the other

side of Stansted Mountfitchet. This particular pocket of Uttlesford is FULL to capacity. We have passed the point of bursting at the seams.

The B1051 also includes the junction of Lower Street in Stansted Mountfitchet and the traffic lights at The Cork House. This junction has to be negotiated to access the railway station at Stansted Mountfitchet, ALL local secondary schools and Bishop's Stortford itself. In recent years, no matter what time of day you travel along this road, there is a queue and a wait of approximately 5 to 7 minutes, sometimes much, much longer. I further note, that a traffic survey has been put in place this week (week starting 19th Sept 2022), the week of Queen Elizabeth II's funeral. We are still queueing, even though many have taken the rest of the week off of work. The last traffic survey was undertaken during the 2020 lockdown, in the summer. THIS IS NOT REPRESENTATIONAL of the vast swathes of traffic that is travelling from Thaxted, from Henham, and from Elsenham. Should a bus, lorry or any vehicle without local knowledge of the junction, will cause the junction to become gridlocked. Essex Highways continually refuse to see an issue, despite protest after protest from residents and Parish Councils alike. I challenge you, as HM Inspectorate to travel the B1051 at least four times during a school day and to include the traditional rush hour.

Elsenham Primary School is the other side of Hall Road, to the immediate south of the planned development. There is NOWHERE for parents to park to drop-off and pick-up their children. ALL surrounding land has been sold for development. The good nature of the Landlord of The Crown Public House, allows for some parents to park there. This is far from ideal and causes a gridlocked scenario on a very busy junction that has no parking restrictions and a bus stop. Again, as HM Inspectorate, I challenge you to travel through Elsenham at around 8.40am and 3.15pm on a school day.

We are RURAL communities. Travelling along country lanes and road junctions that are not built for these vast swathes of traffic that ALL the developments from Thaxted, Henham, Elsenham and the hamlets in between, bring.

I trust that you are aware that, according to the Office for National Statistics, Uttlesford is one of the fastest growing areas in population overall in the UK.

I sincerely hope that common sense prevails and that this application is refused outright.

Thank-you for reading,

Elisabeth Hill

