

From: Martin Phypers [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 November 2022 14:07
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: S62A/2022/0012 Land East of Station, Elsenham, Essex

Dear Sirs

I wish to comment on the above application which I understand is a proposal to add an additional 200 dwellings to the Bloor Home development of 350 dwellings giving a total, if approved, of 550 homes

I am a resident of the adjoining village Henham, and have been for approx. 7 years. I moved to this quiet part of Essex to try and escape the never ending housing developments in my previous area and am dismayed at the prospect of even more housing in Elsenham

Since we first moved here, Elsenham has been subject to non stop development and it is just not sustainable. There has been a huge loss of agricultural/recreational land already, and this proposed development will simply continue that trend. There has also been a substantial loss of habitat for local wildlife

I have noticed a drastic increase in traffic congestion over the last seven years. In particular the journey from Elsenham to Stansted Mountfitchett via Grove Hill is becoming ridiculous, especially at peak times during for example the school runs. It is not uncommon to see tailbacks of dozens of vehicles trying to negotiate the lights at the bottom of Grove Hill. The general traffic congestion and the junction of Lower Street/Chapel Hill by the Co-op store is totally unacceptable.

I believe the traffic light system was upgraded a couple of years ago to try to alleviate the problem (an admission in itself that there is an issue) but to be frank it has failed miserably. Additional residents will only add to the issue. The other smaller roads around Henham, Ugly, Elsenham and surrounding villages are already in dreadful condition and have become noticeably busier over the last few years

Elsenham has a total of 4 shops, a small Tesco express, hair salon, post office and take away. As a result most local residents travel to either Bishops Stortford or Saffron Walden for their weekly shop. The most direct route to Bishops Stortford from Elsenham involves negotiating the notorious Grove Hill lights.

Should this application be approved there will be around 1,200/1,500 additional residents in the area. How are the healthcare and education systems going to cope with that? It is difficult enough to see a doctor locally at the present time even before any of these dwellings are completed/occupied. There is a national issue recruiting GP's at the present time which will potentially only add further to pressure on local surgeries. There is currently one small pharmacy serving Stansted Mountfitchett, Elsenham, Henham and the surrounding villages. People are often having to wait outside the pharmacy as they are so busy. Healthcare is a major issue

As far as education is concerned I understand Elsenham school is already full so where are children going to find suitable schooling?

In my view this is clearly over development of an area where facilities are very limited and the roads are already congested and in very poor condition. The alarming loss of habitat and agricultural land is surely against the desire to become a greener nation and for these reasons I am strongly against this application

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