

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 November 2022 14:29
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Ref S62A/2022/0012

Ref S62A/2022/0012 Land east of Station Elsenham

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To whom it may concern

I am writing to you to object to the proposed planning application of an additional 200 houses within the village of Elsenham

In 2016 the Secretary of state considered a proposal for 800 dwellings in the area and point blank refused the application as deemed as being unsustainable he was also in full agreement with his inspector that the local road infrastructure was unsuitable and insufficient for this volume of properties as all exit roads are narrow country lanes. Additionally the lack of immediate employment and services would mean that the additional commuter and general traffic a build like this would create would be too significant for the area. **If this gets through the total housing stock will surpass what the Secretary of State deemed as being unsustainable**

These are rural villages, they are not purpose built areas that can facilitate this! Both Henham and Elsenham have been relentlessly hit by very poor planning decisions

At present there are 350 houses under construction in the village by the same developer however there are **no additional services**. The local primary school is already full and the one in the neighbouring village (Henham) is almost at capacity - here and now, the potential purchasers of the 350 homes will not be able to gain a place at these schools, let alone with additional 200 being built meaning more traffic on the roads for school runs. The doctor's surgery is already at breaking point. The roads continue to flood as they are very poorly maintained and traffic accidents are on the rise
Local shops consist of a takeaway and a very small Tesco express with the closest shopping areas being Saffron Walden and Bishops stortford. There is a local football ground but that is it!!!!
Local transport is very limited thus pushing people into their cars for the majority of activities both work and leisure.

The majority of secondary schools are based in Bishops Stortford 5 state and 1 private, 1 in stansted mountfitchet, 1 in Newport and 1 in Saffron Walden - all of these schools are either at or near capacity and in all these areas, they also have substantial housing construction in progress so school will be full! Many school bus routes have been cut as well as the train services meaning that people have to drive their children to school in these areas alongside commuters.

The main thoroughfare to stansted or bishops Stortford is via Grove Hill stansted, a single lane road which is unsuitable for lorries (although they try and use it) which leads to lower

street then up to Chapel hill which again is single lane as residents have no option but to park on the road

At Elsenham station the barriers are manual due to the angle, at times you can wait for up to 20 minutes for those to open, for commuters there is very little parking so we already have an issue of people parking on the roads which is both dangerous and causes a gridlock

I have enclosed a few videos from my dashcam and I invite you to watch a few excerpts. This was this morning, with total time spent of 90 minutes due to local traffic (the end to end return journey should take 35 mins and a 14 miles round trip), this is a daily occurrence and with the current construction will exacerbate the problem let alone with 200 more

What this developer is doing is trying to get the original 800 houses and probably a few more in piecemeal hoping that it would not be so obvious to your good selves.

Regarding the land itself, the proposed is grade 1 and 2 agricultural land which is both valuable and sustainable farming land which, as we know given the current circumstances, is vital for the UK.

We are completely destroying rural farming areas and villages, including the wildlife that goes with it. I am asking you directly, please object to this application.

Lisa Etter