

From: Fiona Murray [redacted]
Subject: Grange Paddocks Housing Development Elmdon - opposition
Date: 5 Mar 2023 at 21:08:36
To: [redacted]

Dear Councillor Gregory and Sheila,

I hope I am writing to the right people but I understand that there may be some discussion about this development very soon so I wanted to explain to you my five reasons for opposing such a significant housing development in our small, rural village. Very many thanks for all you do to support our community - I know it must take up a great deal of time and effort for which we are most grateful.

Kind regards
Fiona

1. **The proposed development and the site traffic would have a significant impact on road safety.** There have been a number of significant car accidents on the crossroads just outside the village. In the other direction there is a dangerously narrow pinch point between two historic thatched houses. There have been a number of near misses as children and dogs walk whilst vehicles pass in this section of the conservation area. The roads from all directions are in disrepair with the edges of the roads very uneven and in wintry conditions they are extremely treacherous. These roads are unsuitable for the number and size of vehicles needed for such a development.
2. Elmdon is a rural village with beautiful views and extensive walks. It occupies and is recognised as a "historic" site on the Icknield Way with houses and places of interest dating from the medieval period and earlier. **There is no need for such a development and there are no amenities to serve it. The Council for Protection of Rural England supports and agrees that this development is unsustainable.**
3. The village design statement drawn up by in depth consultation with the local community stated that there should only be infilling no development on greenfield sites which other landowners in the village have followed and supported. Therefore **the village design statement is not being adhered to.**
4. **Elmdon is a small village whose character and tranquility should be preserved.** Villagers moved here to get away from street lighting, urban features and to enjoy peace and quiet. Birdsong is ever present and a wide variety of wildlife, including badgers, regularly roam our gardens and the countryside.
5. Having consulted for the Cabinet Office, charities and business lobby groups in previous job roles the consultation with residents has been extremely poorly communicated and organised. Elmdon Community Group was formed to oppose such development and posters in our gardens and windows show **the widespread opposition from the villagers of Elmdon.**

Fiona Murray

