

From: Sally Home [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 April 2023 21:03
To: Section 62A Applications <section62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: S62A/2023/0015 Proposed development at Grange Paddock, Ickleton Road, Elmdon, Essex

Hello Inspectorate..in reply to the Essex County Council Ecologist Report.

The report has a very narrow outlook which in itself dismisses the observations and reports of many villagers.

However it also fails dramatically in an Ecologists brief which includes " to produce reports detailing the potential environmental impact of any disruption to the environment and making recommendations on how best to avoid it"

The report has failed to consider how development on this green field site will add to the massive issues facing us.

1..The Campaign for Rural England research found almost 14,500 hectares of the country's best agricultural land, which could grow at least 250,000 tonnes of vegetables a year, has been permanently lost to development in just 12 years. This is enough to feed the combined populations of Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield their recommended five-a-day fruit and vegetables.

There was a huge rise in high quality – known as Best and Most Versatile (BMV) – agricultural land set aside for housing and industry between 2010 and 2022, from 60 hectares to more than 6,000 hectares per year. As a result, almost 300,000 homes were built on more than 8,000 hectares of prime farmland in that time. Yet our previous research has shown there is [space for 1.3 million homes on previously developed brownfield land](#), much of it in areas of the midlands and north most in need of regeneration.

The land in Elmdon is prime agricultural land and needed for food production not unwanted urban housing in a village that is unsustainable.

2...In addition to the report not identifying this waste of agricultural land, the report does not even consider the well known fact that affects our environment which is that we have lost 97% of our wild flower meadows since the 1930's by development of land to property and changing to farming methods!

This is an opportunity to preserve Green Field Land and contribute to reverse what has taken place.

3...The release of carbon by building on the Green Field Prime Agricultural Land is enormous compounded by loosing land to capture carbon has a massive Ecological Impact.

Not a word of this in the report.

How can a Ecological Report not consider the Ecological damage that will take place in these 3 areas and I ask you to consider them in the respect of the very narrow minded report submitted by Essex County Council Ecology.

Thank you Peter and Sally Home

