

Comments for Planning Application UTT/23/0950/PINS

Application Summary

Application Number: UTT/23/0950/PINS

Address: Land Tilekiln Green Great Hallingbury

Proposal: Consultation on S62A/2023/0017 - Development of the site to create an open logistics facility with associated new access and ancillary office and amenity facilities

Case Officer: Madeleine Jones

Customer Details

Name: Mr Ross Jackson

Address: [REDACTED]

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: My family and I object to this proposal in the strongest possible terms. Gt. Hallingbury is a historic village and home to a thriving rural community to whom the development proposed by Wren Kitchens would be highly detrimental and dangerous, not to mention incompatible with our way of life.

This should be self-evident from underhand and aggressive way in which Wren Kitchens have conducted themselves with regard to this and previous applications, for example:

- Clearing historical woodland - a habitat to countless species of plants and animals some 18 months prior to the first planning application, before a Biodiversity study could have been conducted. This suggests that the company would have little regard for our natural environment if they were to be granted permission to build and operate their facility which would undoubtedly have a negative impact on wildlife in neighbouring areas beyond their facility such as the Fritch Way and Hatfield Forrest.
- Pursuing their application a second and third time when the Parish Council, our legitimate democratic representatives had rejected their prior applications;
- A total lack of regard for the obvious dangers posed by a massive increase in traffic at the mouth of our village. Congestion at this turning would have a pervasive impact throughout both Gt. and Little Hallingbury as villagers and other parties, including no doubt, those visiting the proposed facility would find it necessary to use other entrances to the village in order to avoid congestion. Given that we are a rural community, local people often walk on the roads due to a lack of pavements, young people frequently ride bicycles as main mode of transport and horse riding is a common local pursuit and industry. People engaged in all these commonplace rural activities would be put at risk by the additional traffic generated by this development.

I believe it would be highly inappropriate for an industrial facility such as that proposed by Wren Kitchens to be built within a rural community such as Gt. Hallingbury.

The incompatibility of these proposed facilities is exacerbated by obvious contempt for both the people and wildlife indigenous to Gt. Hallingbury exhibited by Wren Kitchens to date which strongly suggest that they would not be good neighbours and their presence would only be a source of blight for our village. The areas surrounding Bishop's Stortford and Harlow offer many more suitable sites for Wren to build their logistics hub. The plot of land at Tilekiln Green may simply represent a site near the M11 for Wren but for the people and wildlife of our village it represents something far more valuable. The corporate interests of Wren should not be put above the wellbeing and safety of our community.

Finally, this proposal lays bare the rank hypocrisy on the part of Wren who claim on the website to be "helping the local environment." The website tells us that "We do our best to make sure the local environment is at the heart of our manufacturing. Up to 25% of our materials come from sustainable local woodland, and 45% comes from nearby sawmills. We take the wood that they don't need and put it to good use. "

It would be interesting to know how Wren made good use of the woodland that they destroyed at the mouth of our village. I would also be keen to know which local environment the company is helping. Perhaps it's the environment in the vicinity of the family that runs Wren kitchens because it certainly isn't the environment around our village.

In any event, the continuous aggressive and underhand way in which Wren Kitchens is pursuing this application is nothing short of harassment directed at our village.