

Bidford-on-Avon Parish Council

IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICKSHIRE

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Paul Harris
Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Elizabeth House
Church Street
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 6HX

12th May 2009

Dear Paul

**Re : Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2011-2026
Land North of Bidford-on-Avon**

I refer to the additional information sent in respect of the above, regarding land North of Bidford-on-Avon, the details of which were discussed at length at last night's Planning Committee meeting.

As already expressed in its reply dated 12th August 2008 and 12th January 2009, the Parish Council very strongly objects to the proposed development of the above site which it considers quite unacceptable on sustainability grounds.

The main, though not exclusive, grounds for objection are:

- It is contrary to the Parish Plan, which was adopted by Stratford on Avon District Council as a supplementary planning guidance, and which states:
 - Protect the village character in all parts of the parish

The Parish Office is situated in Bramley Way, Bidford-on-Avon, B50 4QG and is open to members of the public Monday to Friday 10.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. If you are unable to attend during these times, please call for an appointment.

- Need for affordable housing throughout the parish (the Parish Council is currently fighting for the development at Friday Furlong to include the required 35% of affordable housing, so far unsuccessfully)
- Encourage small-scale developments
- No more large-scale developments
- New housing estates only to be considered on the former school site (already developed) and Friday Furlong. Otherwise find sites where single houses or small groups of houses can be built
- The proposed development is close to the brook and will exacerbate flooding problems along Steppes Piece, Victoria Road and Burnell Close. The current small development of Jacksons Meadow had a great effect on the flood of July 2007.

Members noted that the Flood Risk in the report is limited to precisely 2 lines!

- Too many houses for the facilities the village offers and no appropriate site within the village to increase the facilities
- Public Transport – it already has difficulties due to the roads being too small for the volume of transport required. A further large development, over and above Friday Furlong, would make this unfeasible.

Another transport issue would involve the work place of the intended residents. Current statistics show that 76% of residents already travel to work outside the area; any increase in the population would result in increased pressure on transport, the village's carbon footprint, with very little economic return to the village.

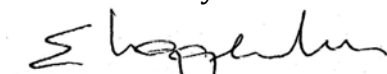
- The drain system in the village is already under stress, again without Friday Furlong being developed, which is included in the Local Plan.
- Water pressure is already low in many areas, especially Waterloo Road
- Education – Bidford Primary School is already under pressure to provide places for children under 5 (pre-school).

All children over the age of 11 will have to be bussed out and in of the village – more transport problems – and again, schools in Alcester and Stratford are oversubscribed.

As already mentioned, the Parish Council objects very strongly to any further large scale development within Bidford on the ground that it is simply unsustainable, especially until the site of Friday Furlong is fully developed and its impact fully assessed.

The Parish Council trusts District Council will give the above comments, as well as those made in its presentations on 12th August 2008 and 12th January 2009, due and careful consideration as they represent not only the views of the Members of the Parish Council, but those of the majority of residents of the village whose quality of life will be most at risk.

Yours sincerely



Elisabeth Uggerløse
Clerk to the Parish Council

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