Comment for planning application 22/02866/OUT

Application Number 22/02866/OUT

Location

Land East Of Ploughley Road Ambrosden

Proposal

OUTLINE planning application for up to 120 dwellings, vehicular and pedestrian access off Ploughley Road, new pedestrian access to West Hawthorn Road, surface water drainage, foul water drainage, landscaping, public open space, biodiversity and associated infrastructure. Access off Ploughley Road is not reserved for future consideration

Case Officer

Organisation

Mavis Langford

Address

Name

16 West Hawthorn Road, Ambrosden, Bicester, OX25 2SE

Type of Comment

Objection

Type

neighbour

Comments

I wish to register my (and my family's) objections to the proposed development of 120 dwellings on land off the Ploughley Road, Ambrosden; our objections are as follows:

Ambrosden is classified as a Cat A village and therefore in scope for a minimum of 750 dwellings. The primary reasons for this categorisation seems to be the fact that the village has a primary school, a shop/post office, village hall, and a hairdressers. Whilst these facilities are greatly valued by the Ambrosden community, they are not without issue. It would appear that the school is oversubscribed; the village hall, post office (limited to 2 people at a time), and hairdressers are all the Merton Road and constantly

subject to traffic congestion - speak to anyone in the village and they will affirm that the stretch of road where these facilities are is an accident waiting to happen. Over the past 10 -15 years I would estimate the village has doubled in size; there has been 4 major housing developments (Briar Furlong, Ambrosden Court, Springfields, Church Leys) and another estate is currently under construction along the Merton Road. The village infrastructure is already at breaking point - traffic congestion and frequent interruptions to the water supply being the two biggest problems.

Development companies all promised much in the way of enhancements to the village and have delivered very little except for the obligatory play areas. Little consideration seems to be given to the needs of older children or adults. Each new development seems to bring with it another facilities management company making it nigh on impossible to know who to contact if there are any issues to be discussed - our local Parish Council try hard to improve village life but seem to be constantly frustrated by management company red tape.

The Planning statement document (sec 3.3) for this proposed development includes reference to a new pedestrian access through to West Hawthorn Road. The provision of this access is highly objectionable and will require the removal of part of a long established hedgerow (residents of West Hawthorn/Oak Lane/Ash Lane maintain this hedgerow to the benefit of residents and wildlife). The pedestrian access will come across land that is maintained by the respective West Hawthorn/Oak Lane/Ash Lane management companies. The roads and footpaths around these streets are also maintained by the management companies - none have been adopted by the local councils as they are 'not to the required standard' but it is now considered acceptable to expect residents to cover the costs associated with additional wear and tear on existing infrastructure. The development of Briar Furlong (also along the Ploughley Road, and backing onto West Hawthorn Road) did not require the removal of sections of the hedgerow and there seems no justification to do

so now. In addition, Section 4.28 (Table 1 - ESD 15) of the same

document talks about contributing to the areas character and identity; respecting local topography, landscape features and historic boundaries; I fail to see how the removal of a hedgerow achieves this.

The high profile development of Graven Hill seems to be conveniently ignored when development of Ambrosden is discussed; as Graven Hill is within the Parish of Ambrosden, how many of those houses count towards the '750'? The annexation of Graven Hill has not benefited Ambrosden village neither has the construction of warehouses along the A41.

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Attachments