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The Head of Development Control & Major Developments
Planning Housing & Economy
Cherwell District Council
Bodicote House
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For the attention of Ms Caroline Ford

Dear Sirs

Planning Application 18/00220/F (Amended)

The objections that I raised in my letter to you of 27th February in the main remain unchanged. I see that the latest drawing shows a very much reduced area for parking. In fact it seems that fitting two full sized pitches onto this site will be extremely tight and leave little if any room for the much vaunted ‘pavilion/possible village hall’. Whilst the sentence concerning the structure has been removed the drawing within the application still shows a 750msq building remains.

This amended application whilst illustrating the proposed Hall/Pavilion states that permission for this structure is not at this time being applied for. It should be noted that part of APC’s case put to the village for this change of use was the suggestion that a brand new spanking (my adjectives not theirs) hall would be made available to the village and its organisations. So much for that particular piece of pie on the sky! Should there be found the space and more importantly the money for this ‘pavilion/hall’ it is unclear to me whether this in due course is to be a Pavilion for the use of the Footballers and Cricketers or for a ‘Village Hall’ or for both. The latter even at 750 msq would seem a little on the ambitious side.

In any event it would appear to have been proved that there is insufficient room for any such structure so, I ask, what use are two football pitches without facilities for changing etc., and is the promise of a proposed Village Hall, which, I believe, very few residents want situated so far out from the centre of the village anyway, so much hot air?

I note that Messrs Ball Colegrave have repeated the concerns they raised in 2014 concerning the proximity of facilities that use equipment that could cause damage to their glasshouses and their contents. It seems that the Parish Council faction have taken no notice of their neighbours concerns and have ploughed on ahead regardless. Whilst noting that Ball Colegrave seek assurances that such damage will be avoided no assurance will compensate for the damage that will, I believe, inevitably occur.

I see no benefit here for the majority of the Community – this land is designated for Sports and COMMUNITY use is it not? It seems that the majority of the COMMUNITY is being totally ignored and will get nothing from this spendthrift project and self-aggrandisement of the ruling minority!

Frankly I must call into question the ability of those in charge to either present a feasible application to the Planning Committee of Cherwell District Council even with assistance of a prominent Officer that Council, or to raise the necessary funds to bring such a project to a satisfactory completion. Two attempts have been made so far both of which seem to have failed the necessary scrutiny.

One has to ask whether or not the new arrivals to Adderbury Fields and Clockmakers Turn have got wind of or have realised the disturbance they are due to suffer in the near future should the organisers actually become successful, which I very much doubt, by having to live so close to a football field.

I am pleased that in the application the Clerk has made it plain that the land was acquired by the Parish Council via a S.106 agreement. There is no suggestion in this application that this land has been ‘gifted’ to the village. Nothing could be further from the truth; the land was sold by the owner to the developers for a fairly princely sum.

I must ask again, because no one has attempted to tell me, and I am sure that you have all read the pros and con letters, whatever happened to the proposal made some years back by a resident to arrange for the Lucy Plackett to be properly drained and made fit for football. I know that idea wouldn’t have suited the residents of Dog Close but why move the problem somewhere else and destroy the serenity of a greater number of Residents?

So I really cannot see that the amendments to the application make any difference to my basic objections.

This project will NOT benefit a sufficient proportion of the residents. Yes 479 people voted for it but that was only a tad over 20% of the total population of 2300 (based on the Clerks figures) – hardly a ringing endorsement for the expenditure envisaged. I would recommend a rerun of the two previous TAP surveys to see what level of support there is in the village as a whole.

It seems that the proponents of the APFC have little regard for the past history of this area - I refer to the discovery of the remains of a wooden henge and barrow that, it appears, are to be buried under tarmac for a car park for the benefit of the players and attendees of local football. I hope that the proposed drainage work and seeding will be held back whilst the recommendations of Richard Oram are carried out.

I therefore ask that this particular application be refused and that instructions be issued to those concerned to take account of the needs of the larger portion of the whole community of Adderbury Village and that a more comprehensive application be submitted to ensure that this land be made available to and for the use of a far wider range of the population than is presently envisaged.

Yours faithfully

Peter Burrows