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From: REBECCA FALLOON

Sent: 21 June 2018 12:46

To: Planning; Andrew Lewis

Subject: Traffic through Somerton

Our names are Rebecca Falloon and David Clarke and we live at 1 Canal Wharf, Water Street, Somerton, Bicester, OX25 6ND.

To Whom it May Concern,

We are writing to you because we have grave concerns about the impact on Somerton that the proposed house building in Heyford will have on the village of Somerton.

That the houses are needed, and welcomed is unquestionable but the fact that no provision for traffic calming through the village certainly is. It is our understanding that section 106 makes no provision for and thus does not recognise what a huge problem the obvious increase in volume of traffic through the village will have upon the residents, and the roads.

This seems to be very short sighted, and indeed contemptuous of Somerton residents. We drive through Somerton regularly, cautiously and with respect for our fellow Somerton residents. It is quite clear to us that others do not adopt this approach regularly speeding through the village causing disturbance and danger to others. You will know that at places in the village there are no pavements. This means that walking through the village requires great caution and the ability to cross the road frequently, and with alacrity to maintain safety and give motorists the best chance of seeing pedestrians. With the increase in traffic inevitably speeding through the village oblivious of residents and pedestrians the quality of life for Somerton residents will be affected.

Our roads are in a disgraceful condition with potholes right through the village. These can only get worse with the increase in volume of traffic. It is our understanding that traffic calming measures for Upper and Lower Heyford, Ardley and Middleton Stony are all covered by section 106. Why has Somerton not been included. The roads through the village from both directions are used to gain access to the M40, and to travel to Banbury and Bicester and environs.

Clearly the developers will make an enormous profit from their housebuilding project and residents from the surrounding villages will benefit from the development and the infra structure necessary to support it. However there will be the very real, and obvious negative affect of traffic increase associated with the project, this just cannot be denied or indeed ignored.

We urge Cherwell District Council to look again at section 106 and insist that provision be made in it for traffic calming measures for Somerton. This would be fair, and reasonable, and proportionate for the disruption necessarily caused by the traffic volume increase through our small village.

We look forward to your comments, and to your action in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Falloon and David Clarke