

Fritwell Parish Council response to:

Application Number 18/00825/HYBRID

Fritwell Parish Council comments on the above application as follows:

Traffic

- North Street is used to enable traffic, via the Somerton road, to reach the Western end of the Heyford Park development. This worsens when there are problems on the M40 and Fritwell becomes a “rat-run” detour. We do believe as the community in Heyford Park expands and business use of the site increases this will exacerbate this problem.
- We believe that the proposed new traffic scheme on the Fewcott Road at the B430 will encourage traffic to find alternative routes, i.e. Water Lane or Raghouse Lane or traffic will simply turn left onto the Fewcott Road and travel via Fritwell to reach the Banbury road thus avoiding the M40 and Baynards Green roundabouts. This already happens and will no doubt be made worse by the proposed junction.
- Considering the proposed changes, which will no doubt increase the traffic through Fritwell, we would urge the Council to include a 7.5 tonne weight limit through appropriate areas of Fritwell in its traffic management scheme.
- Will there be provision at the Fewcott Road junction for traffic coming from Fritwell to cross the junction into the Bucknell Road?

Light/Noise Pollution. Safety Considerations from overflying of local villages

- With the proposed increase in filming, including the use of pyrotechnics and aerial vehicles, what checks will be in place to mitigate the effects on residents, wildlife, and livestock?
- With all the proposed activity at ‘Creative City’ what will be done to minimise the light pollution which will affect the south west side of Fritwell?

Transportation

- Heyford Park needs to be successfully integrated into the wider area. Current plans address this within the site but do not appear to do so for the adjacent communities. Residents from neighbouring villages should be able to access healthcare, retail, sports and leisure facilities at HP. Contributions from developers will be used to support existing bus routes through the area, and we would request an additional service is provided to enable local villages to access facilities at HP and enable a link to bus routes taking people to Bicester, Oxford etc.

Public Rights of Way / Conservation

- The design and place shaping principle requires the retention and enhancement of public rights of way and we welcome the opening of parts of the ancient pathways (Portway and Aves Ditch) for people in Heyford Park. However, the map of cycling and pedestrian routes is not clear about how it usefully links and enhances access from outside the HP development. There are concerns about the nature of the Heritage Trail around the site and access by walkers. At the northern edge of the site it describes the trail as using the current footpath, which follows the edge of a field with woodland including significant trees bordering the perimeter fencing. It is hoped that plans do not include fencing the current footpath in any way or the removal of the woodland and natural areas.

Education

- Fritwell Parish Council would urge the Council to require that any new primary school is not opened until there are sufficient primary children resident at Heyford Park to justify this. The reason for this request is that Fritwell Primary School has already suffered considerable damage to pupil numbers following aggressive marketing by Heyford Park Free School.
- Any further investment in HPFS should take into account the current OFSTED judgement and consideration should be given to making financial contributions to other local secondary school who may well find themselves with additional pupils from HP dwellings, as parents exercise their rights to choose the educational setting for their children.

Health Care

- Fritwell Parish Council would like to see a GP Surgery at Heyford Park as envisioned in the original outline plans, albeit part-time if necessary.