

From: [REDACTED]
To: [External Email for Local Plans](#)
Subject: Plan for Housing Development in Lower Penn
Date: 01 December 2022 14:01:37

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Please excuse my previously emailed comment, it was a series of notes rather than the cogent objection that I wished to make. I'll write again, hopefully with more success!

As a resident of South Staffordshire, with my family for over forty years I have watched the village of Wombourne become, effectively a small town. I am well aware that people need houses and many of the recent arrivals will soon start to treasure the local amenities that are on offer. Nevertheless, there are limits and I object most strongly to the addition of 390+ houses on the Green Belt in Lower Penn.

South Staffordshire residents will pay the price in the safety and health of local residents and school-children. The pressure on local services like GP surgeries, Dentists, Clinics and Schools is already more than can be met without expansion.

Our roads are becoming busier and more dangerous and most households now own at least one car for each adult! Firstly, the lanes that traditionally connect villages are rutted and pot-holed with excessive traffic. Planks Lane and Ounsdale Road are choked with school traffic in the mornings and late afternoons but so are all the roads leading along lanes between villages. Stationary traffic spills out toxic exhaust fumes and heat into the environment which affects local residents and the lungs of our children. The lanes connecting Lower Penn are particularly unsuited to more and more traffic. We need to plant more trees and oxygenating plants to try to balance this.

So, thank goodness for the foresight of previous generations who created a sacrosanct 'belt of green' around towns and cities. As Planners and Local Councillors will know, the Green Belt was designed to offer sanctuary from the physical and mental problems of the UK's conurbations. Oh, so who is asking us to consider a plan for nearly 400 houses on the Green Belt in Lower Penn? Who will benefit if farms and fields and open spaces are covered with concrete and asphalt and why should they profit at every other persons cost, in terms of the loss of calming spaces to view, walk through, breathe in, take children to, exercise, watch birds, simply be? In a world where we need to react quickly to climate change, aren't Green Belts even more essential to protect?

Green Belts help to meet the challenge of Climate Change. Green Belts should be protected. Protect the Green Belt in South Staffordshire.

Please keep me up to date with the developments in the Council, in as much detail as possible, as they debate this proposal.

Peter Baker

