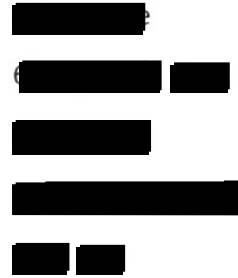


SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE
COUNCIL

Mon 19th December 2022,

105 JAN 2023

RECEIVED



Ref: Local Plan Publication Stage reply:

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Following publication of the local plan here are my comments and objections to its validity.

1, Positively prepared:

It states that the plan has been driven by the members yet all District Councillors from Wombourn have objected to this so how can this be the case? Also, at the District Council meeting the person proposing adoption of this plan stated that he did not know of the contentious issue to build on areas 463/ 284 until 6 weeks previous to the meeting – what kind of message does this put out, have “you” really been working this out for the last year and more with everybody involved or have taken no notice of people’s objections and suggestions to other locations?

The plan does not give any information on increase in traffic levels and how the roads, some narrow single carriageway and other even two-way road structure without footpaths are to cope, who is going to provide the infrastructure improvements as non in detail is mentioned, just houses on fields and nothing else? Moving off from roads the same can be applied to health care services and education where are the figures that these bodies can cope with extra people. When Wombourn was expanded in the 1950’s & 60’s we gained schools, police, Council Offices etc... now we lose have lost these even with more building.

The method of communication is very poor, from my submission in November 2021 I only knew about the District Council meeting for example when a neighbour told me, we are not all glued to our computers or devices all day and some of us don’t have them. Neither am I on facebook and other such platforms, what has happened to the Council “Review” newspaper to communicate to all residents at home?

2, Justified:

As a tier 2 village Wombourn is taking a larger slice of the new dwellings, why is not the proposed number of new dwellings distributed equally among the tier 2 villages so that they all grow more slowly together instead of destroying one so much. Why do you think we have better transport links, yes bus service is every 15 minutes in the week yet on a Sunday only one an hour during the day. We did have a railway but there is NO mention in the plan of this route being safeguarded for reopening as say a metro link to Wolverhampton / Dudley to cope with this demand.

Due to Dudley leaving the Black Country Plan and also turning round to remove green belt building land (triangle/ Holbeache) why are you still going ahead in wanting to adopt this plan and destroy our narrower green belt gap between Wombourn and Wolverhampton when the goal posts have

moved; your plan shows building at Perton on the West “away” from the conurbation to prevent linking up BUT Wombourn on the East side “towards” the conurbation.

Large scale development should always bring some improvements for the new homes and the local area, hence my suggestion to build a new “Pool House Estate” opposite the existing one rather than on fields 463/ 284. With all the homes in one place we might then get 1, a bus service, 2 a health care centre (of which Wombourn is lacking), 3 a new Primary School, 4, decent roads with footpaths and cycle routes. All we have seen so far in Wombourn with recent development is squashed in housing, congestion and destruction of quality of environment and life – no improvement for the existing residents.

3, Effective:

Short term solutions seem to be the way of this plan hence the easy option to destroy 284 and 463 the gateway to my village rather than areas which would need some more work EG Copart. The plan shows little information of working together with other authorities and now that one has left where does that leave the number of homes they wanted or needed to be built, does South Staffordshire now have to take all the houses Dudley is not building on the triangle or Holbeache in the future?

4, National Policy:

The Government takes great importance on Green Belts to prevent urban sprawl and towns linking up (look at the recent saving of the Corn Fields to prevent Wolverhampton joining with Sedgley) so why again are you, intent of wanting to destroy my village gateway and the natural habitat of 284 / 463.

Yours Faithfully

Mr. Martin Beddall



I also enclose a document I had written on 5th December after the District Council had voted for this plan and which refers back to my original submission on 21st November 2021.