

Friends of Essington comments on Local Plan Review (Linthouse Lane Development)

Background

Friends of Essington are a volunteer group consisting of people who live in the village of Essington. Many of the members of the group have lived in Essington the majority of their life and have already witnessed masses of housing development in the village.

OBJECTS:

The group's objectives are

1. To enhance the quality of life of residents of Essington and surrounding areas of South Staffordshire and the West Midlands through protecting and enjoying the natural and built environment of Essington with a "hands on" approach.
2. To raise public awareness, engaging the local community and businesses to join in with our projects and encouraging them to have pride in their surroundings.
3. To act as the environmental eyes and ears of the parish of Essington liaising with residents, housing associations and local government, making them aware of local issues.
4. To raise interest in, and awareness of, nature conservation, leading by example, supporting other like-minded groups and individuals of all ages.
5. To promote recycling and energy conservation.

Location of Proposed Development

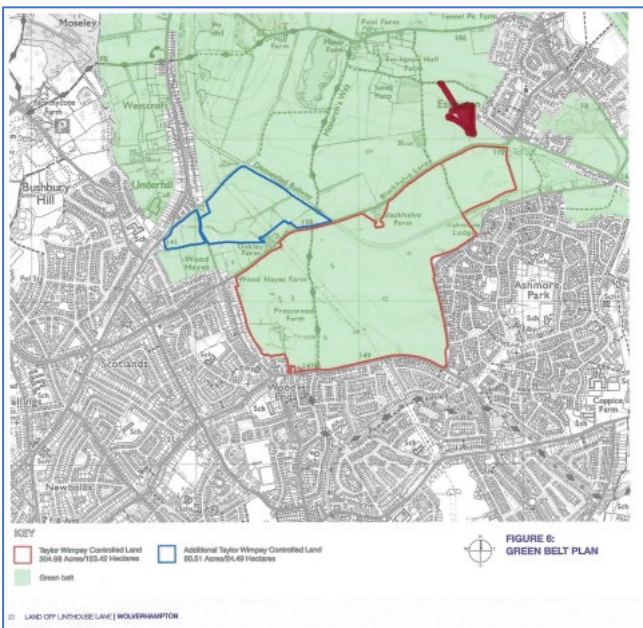
It seems tragic that actively farmed fields will be destroyed when so much brown field land is around. Below is the cover picture from our recent calendar. This will become houses !!!



See below some of the wasteland/brownfield sites around the local area. Surely smaller developments could utilise these sites rather than the massive destruction of valuable farmland.



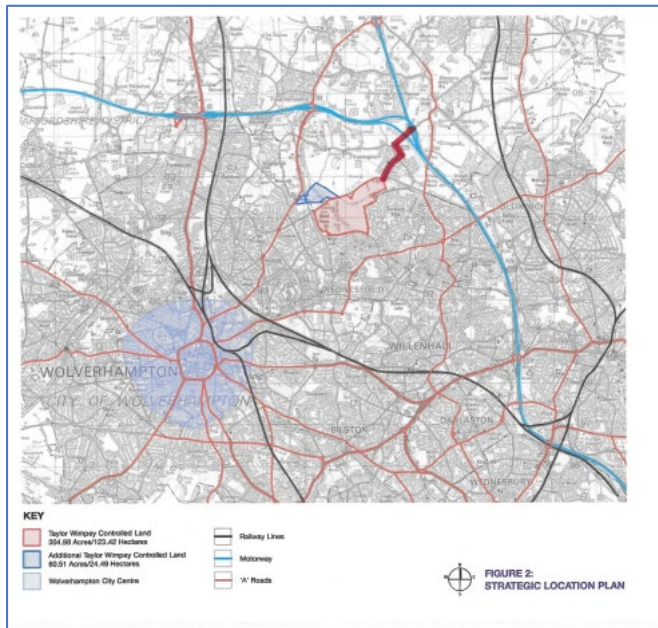
One of the attractions of Essington is that despite all the housing developments over the years, it has always retained its village feel. This is at risk if the new housing development merges the village into the built-up Wolverhampton area. Therefore, if it has to be built it is vital that the country park creates the buffer between the village and the new development.



Surrounding Road Infrastructure

The planners are of the opinion that all traffic from this massive development will head into Wolverhampton and not into Essington village. This seems very naïve so it is essential that measures are taken to protect the village. If any more traffic volume passes past the school, then someone will be seriously hurt as the road is a bottleneck and the paths incredibly narrow. The group is already lobbying the council about these concerns so no increase

should be permitted without a major improvement to infrastructure. See the diagram below that shows the route to the M6 which goes directly through the village and past the school.



Contact

The friends of Essington committee and members are more than happy to be contacted about any comments we have raised.

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