

From: [REDACTED]
To: [External Email for Local Plans](#)
Subject: Comments
Date: 17 November 2022 19:30:56

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION-THIS EMAIL WAS SENT FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNCIL. DONT OPEN LINKS OR ATTACHMENTS UNLESS YOURE SURE YOU CAN TRUST THIS SENDER!

Hello,

I am Petula Hughes, currently Vice Chairman of Penkridge Parish Council. Unfortunately I cannot make the consultation day at Haling Dene so will instead write my comments/concerns.

Previously, I did express my thoughts on the Local Plan when it was in earlier stages but I would like to reiterate my comments.

1 Our roads cannot support the increased volume of traffic - particularly during construction stages (you only have to look at the effect Bloor/Cameron developments have caused and continue to do so) Also when anything happens on the M6 - which it frequently does, our entire village is grid locked, sometimes for many hours.

2 Schools - I note that a new Primary school is to be built - that will be a 5th (3 Penkridge 1 Dunston) all feeding into 1 Middle school and 2 secondary schools. Surely this will create extreme pressure on existing establishments which are struggling already.

3 Health Services - our GP practice is currently having to absorb all the extra patients from the recent development in Penkridge (Lyne Hill, Bloor and soon Cameron). It is exceedingly difficult to consult a Doctor now with waiting time for appointments often being weeks. It is almost impossible to see the same GP so there is no continuation of care. We have lost several local services (Health visitors, baby clinics etc) There is only one small NHS Dental practice - both others being Private and way above price range for ordinary working families. Again a very worrying situation. We have no care/nursing home facilities in Penkridge at all - anyone requiring more care has to leave their village and go to surrounding towns. Yes we have sheltered housing/supported living but there is a limit to how long some people can remain in these when their needs worsen.

4 Sports Facilities - I not the plan includes establishment of new recreation facilities/sports hall, grounds. Why? Penkridge already has the Leisure Centre at Wolgarston and the Monckton Recreation Centre - would it not make more sense to invest in improvements to the existing facilities, making better use of them and integrating new residents into the community.

5 Community Centre/hub - we already have these facilities too with the Haling Dene Centre and various halls/spaces which again could benefit from investment. Using existing facilities would bring people together rather than create a separate isolated community.

6 Shopping Centre - the onething Penkridge really lacks is a larger supermarket. We merely have two very expensive Co-ops and a few small independent grocery shops. There is no competition and the majority of residents who have transport shop in nearby towns at larger stores (Asda, Aldi, Lidl, Morrison's, Sainsbury etc). It is very costly for people who have no choice but shop here due to lack of transport. I agree we do have a range of other shops - 2 butchers, 1 Baker, 3 gift shops, a card shop, 4 charity shops, 7 hairdressers, 10 fast food/takeaways, 3 cafés. 2 hardware/farm shops, 2 pharmacies and a few others. No where to buy clothing, shoes, deli foods, electrical goods etc. More small out of village shops is not the answer. Penkridge needs a large supermarket- people would then shop local.

To conclude our infrastructure in Penkridge cannot cope with continuous development as it does not improve at the same pace. The new exceedingly large proposed development at

Lower Drayton will create a separate and isolated community without necessary services to support it. As a lifelong resident of the village, I find it all very worrying and wonder reluctantly what the future holds.

Kind Regards
Petula Hughes
Vice Chairman- Penkrige Parish Council

Sent from my Galaxy