

**WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

05 DEC 2022

RECEIVED

25/11/22

Mr A Johnson  
Director of Planning and Strategic Services  
The South Staffordshire Council  
Codsall  
Staffordshire  
WV8 1PX

Sir

**The Local Planning Review – Southern edge of Stafford A34 Cannock Road/Acton Hill Lane - 2022**

I am in receipt of your letter dated 11/11/22 – delivered on 17/11/22. It is noticed yet again, that this notice is dated on the exact date that consultation begin and runs for 6 weeks until noon 23/12/22. It would seem your concern has a propensity to always shorten the actual duration of consultation as far a residents of Wildwood/Baswich/Brocton/Bednall etc., etc., are concerned with regard to registering any strong objections, and also timing it to end just before Christmas time when everyone is busy and occupied and perhaps less able to write their complaint. Is this a deliberate ploy?

With regard to the new owners of the above land submitting a planning application for 80 homes plus a 'travellers site' on the said land, once again it is necessary to register strong and emphatic objection to this land being built on – a green site. I reiterate, as I have done previously in 2021, that the only beneficiaries of such action will be S. Staffordshire Council, as you will not be providing all the amenities and infrastructure that the future occupants would require as they will obviously and naturally seek all these services from Stafford Borough Council area. Such sites are better provided and situated in commercial areas (as is the residential travellers' site in Stafford at the back of Sainsburys to name but one).

In 2017 and 2021 applications to build on this site were rejected on very sound grounds, and those reasons still stand today even more so and even more importantly and urgently. Such development would cripple our infrastructure in Wildwood/Stafford; our schools, surgeries and all amenities and services are already very heavily oversubscribed as to not being able to meet demands (even more so since Covid), and this development could and would cause all facilities to collapse – not to mention the untold damage and destruction to wildlife, flora and fauna, at a time when we are all being asked to help and consider wildlife and green countryside – even more so for Councils to act more responsibly.

This recent proposal will cause, without doubt, Acton Hill Lane to become even more of a 'rat run' than it already is, so too the A34 which again already on a daily basis is severely, and dangerously heavily congested.

Since before 2017 and thereafter, there have been many major housing completions and even more ongoing in the near and direct Wildwood area amounting to well over 1500 homes. The A34 is a major artery for ambulances, hospitals, law enforcement vehicles etc., and thus more serious problems would be caused by this development of 80 homes and amenities for 'travellers' and would open the door to further development across the accompanying land in the near future and ad infinitum .

The 2017 report has much to say about Wildwood and the surrounding fields being a 'sensitive area' and stresses the need to protect 'much of the character, countryside and green belt beyond' which is of high quality and agriculture value. It is also a known fact that for animal and human wellbeing countryside and greenery are entirely essential and necessary. None of these facts have changed. There is also the matter of protecting, urgently, the wildlife etc in our area, which is being depleted dangerously and repeatedly by the destruction of their habitat etc., due to these extensive developments already completed and ongoing in Stafford generally, and in particular in Wildwood area. In 2017 /2021 the review had a great deal to say about 'protecting sensitive areas' - why has this changed and not being upheld?

With all this extensive development ( which is already over three times higher and massively exceeds the allocation for Stafford) Wildwood and Stafford has become a 'commuter belt' for S. Staffordshire/West Midlands/Stoke on Trent and has sadly lost its identity as 'The County Town'. Development on this site will have a disastrous consequence for Wildwood, the A34 and Acton Hill Lane together with all wildlife and well being of residents whose countryside is fast disappearing at a frightening speed.

You have, in the past, in your local plan review, given a false impression that Wildwood housing is smaller than it actually is and you seem to be continuing with this false picture by encouraging ongoing and more applications on this site. Why – especially as in 2017 your Council's own documents questioned the inclusion of this site at all, as this site is isolated from all other developments and amenities in S. Staffs and would be entirely reliant on the close proximity of Wildwood and Stafford, (thus saving costs of course for S. Staffs. ). Have the sentiments in the said document changed and if so why?

The inclusion of this site in your Local Plan Reviews must be removed permanently or serious and damaging development of this land for housing will lead, unquestionably, to further large developments on adjacent fields and beyond, thus ensuring grave and non-reversible damage to our environment, social, economic, ecological and physiological well being. Such persistence in allowing repeated applications on this land, when there are so many brown sites on S.Staffs area, one wonders what benefit it is to the Council and its Councillors to pursue these.

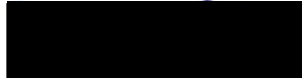
Wildwood does not need, or want, this development, it will not benefit anything or anyone in the Stafford area, and will only benefit S. Staffs, which in the scheme of things seems rather short sighted and selfish, which attitude I observe, without prejudice, seems to prevail with your Council repeatedly seeking sites directly on the borders and boundaries of your neighbouring Councils and thus not costing your Council expense or serious problems. Again, perhaps showing a rather selfish attitude by your Council towards other areas.

In my previous objection letter in 2021, I stated that the courtesy of a reply would oblige, this was not forthcoming. I therefore request the same again. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,



Lady Jacqueline Jinks



Cc – Planning Manager, Strategic Planning Team  
Mr Len Bates – Conservative Councillor for Penkridge N.E/Acton Trussell area