
From: Brian Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 January 2018 16:44
To: Planning Policy
Subject: East Devon Local Plan

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

20 January 2018

Dear Sirs

I am writing with regards to the village plan for Woodbury Salterton. I wish to support the proposed changes to the Village Plan, but request that Policies VPO5 and VPO6 be included in their entirety. I believe it is very important that the final sentence, “in particular Strategy 7 of the East Devon Local Plan (Development in the Countryside)” is included in the plan. This sentence must remain in Policies VP04 and VP05 of the Villages Plan to ensure a substantial link to the East Devon Local Plan.

The village and surrounding countryside is under constant threat from the ever-expanding Greendale Business Park. Noise and traffic from Greendale have significantly increased. Heavy vehicles leaving Greendale frequently use local lanes rather than the purpose-built exit on to the Sidmouth Road. Greendale admittedly provides employment, though for very few local residents, and results in dangerous traffic in small country lanes endangering the life of pedestrians (adults and children), dog walkers, horse-riders and cyclists. The damage to the roads from lorries for which they were not designed is considerable, and it is the locals who pay the cost with drainage and flooding problems, potholes, congestion and damage to valuable ancient Devon hedge banks.

As a resident of Woodbury Salterton I am particularly concerned by the rapid, seemingly unchecked, growth of Greendale Business Park. This growth amounts to an industrialisation of the countryside. The developers have pushed the boundary of the site over the last twenty years, often using retrospective planning to legalise their actions. Any weakening of planning policy that allows them to continue this practice must be resisted. The number of Enforcement Notices that have been served on the Greendale Business Park area should be a clear indication of the contempt that the owners have for planning law. EDDC should not be seen to support companies that operate in such a manner.

There is great resentment locally that everyone else has to obey strict and proper planning legislation while Greendale gets away with continuous abuse of the planning laws. Retrospective planning should not be allowed or upheld when it is continually abused.

Greendale has already grown beyond what is considered sustainable in a small rural community. Woodbury Salterton borders an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a designation that is at risk of becoming meaningless.

Please ensure that the crucial sentence is reinstated. Without it the policy offers a loophole for all planning applications by Greendale and indeed other developers.

Yours faithfully

Brian C. Smith

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