

[REDACTED]

From: Matthew Dickins
Sent: 19 December 2022 15:50
To: Planning Policy
Subject: FW: Feniton - Draft Local Plan

Categories: Reg.18 consultation

[For logging as a local plan representation.](#)

From: Martyn Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 December 2022 10:42
To: Matthew Dickins [REDACTED]
Cc: Nick Spence [REDACTED]; Jayne Blackmore [REDACTED];
Chris Wilkins [REDACTED]; chris poole [REDACTED]; Feniton Clerks
[REDACTED]; Cllr Alasdair Bruce [REDACTED]; Councillor Phil Twiss
[REDACTED]
Subject: Feniton - Draft Local Plan

Dear Matt

It was good to have the opportunity to talk through some of the issues with the sites in the draft local plan for Feniton last Tuesday.

I know you will have heard from many people about all the issues that make Feniton unsustainable and I won't go through all those at the moment. I did want to reiterate some of the serious issues with the 2nd sites we talked about.

One issue is related to the railway crossing. I think it was mentioned that it is the only crossing in the country on a crossroads. At the moment, now the crossing is controlled, I believe, at Basingstoke, we have experienced some serious traffic congestion issues, waiting for the barriers. If there is development on fen 9 and fen 11, then traffic down the Ottery road will seriously impact the crossing. Development on fen 01 will also increase the traffic coming out of the Talaton Road at the crossing. From a practical point of view, there does not appear to be any solution to easing the problem as it stands, let alone if the traffic increases. Of course, developing any of the other sites will dramatically increase the traffic coming out of Station Road and across the railway. In our view, any increase in traffic could lead to a dangerous situation at the crossing. We believe it is only luck that we have not had a serious accident in relation to the railway crossing.

The other issue is the flooding. Much has been made of the long awaited alleviation scheme. Of course the scheme was designed many years ago, with fewer houses. The scheme starts at fen 7 where ponds will be built to slow some of the water. The calculations of flow from the hill would have been used to determine size of pipe etc. so building on that hill would be completely inappropriate, apart from all the other considerations. Of course, what hasn't been considered is the flooding in other parts of the village. Water cascades out of Acland Park, water pours off the playing fields in heavy rain, water pours down the road from Payhembury towards the rail crossing and water pours down to the village along Talaton Road. The Ottery Road, by the pumping station has been closed many times because of flooding

I was interested to see your ironically called 1 -100 year flood maps. They did not include the road from the crossing where people were using canoes to get anywhere, the Talaton Road, outside Appletree Cottage, where the water was over a metre deep, trying to get into Ottery Road. Or the Ottery Road, by the pumping station. Without a proper survey, we can only look at the topography and geology of the sites, but an informed view would be that any development on those sites would only increase the risk of flooding in the village. It is a fact that water flows downhill and there is nowhere else for it to go.

We also talked about the Burlands site and the extreme limitations with sewerage and surface water and any acceptance of that site would need a sewer upgrade and a suitable surface water strategy.

Again, thanks for the opportunity to discuss some of these issues and if you want more information, please don't hesitate to ask.

Kindest regards

Martyn Smith
Chair
Feniton Parish Council

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Martyn

Cllr Martyn Smith