

Dear Sirs

I am responding on behalf of Somerby Parish Council to the proposed revisions to the local plan. I will concentrate specifically on the proposed SOM 1, 2 and 3 sites.

SOM 1

- 1 Attached our letter of objection to the outline application 16/00100/OUT which details the points at issue on this site
- 2 The site assessment states "small flooding and drainage issues at the north of the proposed area, but none in Zone 3". Simply untrue; the outline application has been rejected on the primary grounds of flooding! There is a considerable body of evidence which has been submitted which confirms the problems and cannot be ignored in the revised plan
- 3 The assessment details proximity to employment opportunities, but this is an academic statement. For instance, John O'Gaunt Industrial estate comprises a small number of units providing 10-14 jobs maximum. We and the Neighbourhood Plan group have already submitted information which clearly shows that employment opportunities in the Parish are few and below the average for Leicestershire and/or Melton. The evidence clearly shows that just about everyone who moves into this development would have to commute at least to Oakham/Melton and probably much further to Leicester/Nottingham
- 4 Public Transport – the comments on the attached letters refers. The 113 Service is the second most heavily subsidised in the county and therefore is very likely to discontinue well before any of the proposed houses on any of the sites are built

SOM2

1. Comments as above re. employment and public transport.
2. All residents would have to cross the road to access the school, shop and pub. Only the village hall is accessible on the same side of the road
3. This site is a historic park with medieval earthworks on the land. The Melton Fringe Sensitivity Studs recommends only 2-3 houses should be built on the site
4. Whilst we have not yet seen any details of the proposed layout, we are concerned by the loss or, at best, resiting of the well used children's play area and football field away from the main access.

SOM 3

- 1 Attached our letter of objection and correspondence to the outline application 16/00615/OUT which details the points at issue on the site
The Heritage assets section does not even mention the Grade 2 listed vinery actually adjacent to SOM 2! It has also not mentioned the undesignated heritage buildings such as the water tower or historic landscapes and over 200 mature and veteran trees and associated wildlife habitats or recent archaeological finds.
- 2 Comments as above re employment and public transport.

Somerby parish is well able to fulfil its allocations as detailed in the Plan without the need for such large, intrusive and damaging sites

Regards

Howard Blakebrough

Somerby Parish Council