

I wish to submit a couple of further comments on the above Local Plan (having submitted my main representation yesterday).

I understand and accept the requirement to provide the details requested in 'part A' since this creates clarity and enables the representation to be processed as valid. My submission is given below.

Personal details

Full name: Debbie Caroline Adams

Organisation: n/a



The parts of the Melton Local Plan: Pre-Submission Draft to which these representations relate are referred to within the relevant representations detailed below. I can confirm that all these representations are on the basis that it is considered that the Local Plan is NOT SOUND, and I accept that the Plan is LEGALLY COMPLIANT, and COMPLIES WITH DUTY TO CO-OPERATE.

My reasons for considering the Pre-Submission Draft Melton Local Plan November 2016 to be unsound are given below.

I am a resident who lives in the north of the town and I wish to reserve the right to participate at the Oral Examination. I wish to be notified at the email address given above when the Melton Local Plan is submitted to the Secretary of State, when the Inspector's report is available to view, and when the Melton Local Plan is adopted. I also wish to be included in future consultations on the Melton Local Plan.

Local Plan video

Just three days ago I was sent the "Local Plan video". We had been advised that MBC were producing the video at the start of the Public Consultation. It is unfortunate that it has taken so long to come out. Having said that I was not impressed with the video. There were 7 people who featured on that video: Stephen Hallam from Dickinson & Morris who spoke quite well, as did Michael Cooke of Melton Sports and Kevin Hubbard of Males Hair Salon who spoke of the problems of getting onto the housing ladder when living in a village. This latter comment begs the question as to why so little (only 35%) housing is to be built in the borough when the town:borough population split is about 50:50. I fear it is the NIMBY attitude of villages who do not realise that by refusing to allow development in their villages the future of the villages is in doubt. The town has had its boundary extended

significantly and the village envelopes have hopefully been removed as they were choking the villages. Why can't villages expand as the town is expected to do? I am amazed for instance that a village the size of Great Dalby apparently has no housing allocation for the next 20 years! How is that **justified**? It questions the **soundness and credibility** of the Local Plan as a whole.

Getting back to the video, the remaining 4 people featured on the video are the Senior Town Estate Warden, the Leader of the Council Cllr Posnett, Cllr Pearson who is portrayed as MD of SAQ International (it is not mentioned that he is an MBC councillor), and a random MBC employee at the end. Cllr Pearson talks of the traffic problems and his own problem of travelling to work at Asfordby Business Park from the Longfield School area. What he fails to mention is that the proposed "relief road" as it is called in this video but which is referred to in the Local Plan as a "Distributor Road" will not make his journey any easier as it is not planned to link the Asfordby Business Park with the Leicester Road (off which Longfield School is situated).

As for Cllr Posnett, I found her comment *".....I suppose it's only human nature that you live somewhere, you like your view from the window and you don't want anything to spoil it."* quite frankly insulting. To suggest that the only reason residents will oppose development is because it spoils their view may relate to villagers, but here in the town we have so many problems with the lack of road, health and education infrastructure that the potential change of view from one's window takes a back seat compared to the difficulties of living in the town which, thanks to MBC, are potentially due to get a whole lot worse. How dare she dismiss the residents' opinions in such a frivolous manner. But then she is the person who at the Launch Meeting for this latest public consultation, told us that MBC has a "shovel ready plan" for the bypass! Members of the audience soon corrected her on that point.

The random council employee at the end of the video talks of several ways in which you can have your say. She lists one as going onto the MBC website and go to the Local Plan website. Her alternative is to go to any councillor *"...to have your say to."* Forgetting about the spelling mistake, she seems to think that a conversation with a councillor will mean your view has been submitted. It doesn't. She mentions nothing of being able to email your comments to the planningpolicy@melton.gov.uk or the fact that you can submit your comments by letter if you do not have access to a computer (as many residents do not).

All in all I consider the video to have been a waste of tax payers' money.

Public access during public consultation

I also wish to comment that once again the public is not able to read other submissions to the public consultation during the consultation period. This practise was carried out during the Core Strategy and proved most useful and helpful in

terms of seeing what other people commented on, other people's priorities, how others set out their submissions, and gave one to think about one's own comments and how/if they were relevant. The public were not actually allowed to see the representations submitted to the public consultation January - April 2016 until after a meeting of the full Council on 27th July. According to the Head of Regulatory Affairs in a memo to Cllr Lumley dated 11th April: "*Representations came [is] a variety of means and we have to collate them etc. first. They will be reported to a meeting of Full Council and will be available then as background papers.*" For a council who apparently is trying to be open and transparent, that is not the way to deal with their public. I wonder when we will be allowed to view the representations submitted during this public consultation period as presumably the council is going to want to "*...collate them etc. first.....*" again.

Finally to re-emphasise my somewhat cynical opinion which I expressed in my other submission that MBC does nothing to encourage people to make their submissions this time, I wish to point out that not only did MBC make the whole process of submission highly complicated this time, **they did not even have a direct link to the Local Plan website on their home page!**

Mrs Debbie C Adams
Resident