

Somerby Planning applications (various & several) - primarily that between Manor Lane and the riding stables

Dear Sirs

I wish to object to the local plan, reference above. I am a resident of Somerby, on Church Lane.

Below are the reasons for my objections:

The negative impact on the heritage assets of the Grade 1 listed church, Grade II listed buildings of Somerby House Farm and Manor Farm House and the Village School and other listed buildings on Church Lane all within the centre of the village.

It will hugely diminish the significance and setting of the whole of the adjacent Somerby conversation area in the heart of the village and damage an area which has remained unchanged for hundreds of years.

The proposed location of the site is likely to create traffic access issues directly on to the High Street and further increase the traffic through the village which is already reduced to one lane and not capable of being easily mitigated through improvements. An additional 42 houses is likely to mean at least an additional 80 plus cars, plus associated traffic servicing those residents together with noise, carbon emissions and pollution.

The site will have an adverse effect on the Leicestershire Round - Jubilee Way is intended to be a Melton Broough Green infraststructure flagship project. This development will harm land designated as Primary Green Infrastructure.

A further 42 houses will have a detrimental impact on equestrian traffic on the High Street, Newbold Lane and unintended negative consequences on an important source of employment and tourism in the area.

It will also overload the village infrastructure such: the already inadequate foul and surface water drainage system, the roads, etc.

Melton BC has erroneously classed Somerby as a service centre and capable of absorbing such a new large development site. This is a flawed assessment. The majority of public services are at least 7 miles away. The post office operates two 1/2 days per week, the school is full, the bus service is once per day.

It will also obscure the Somerby Church Spire and conservation area from the adjacent well used footpath and Newbold Lane.

It will urbanise an important rural area.

The Somerby Fringe Sensitivity study states we should be having developments of no more than 5 homes - this is way in excess of this and will totally ruin forever the southern side of the village.

There are currently applications for 12 dwellings, 32 dwellings and 31 dwellings respectively, all of which is already too much for this village. No decisions have been made on any of these applications. There also seems to be the erroneous assumption that there is an economy to support these houses, which there is not: new residents will commute to Melton, Leicester, or Oakham, at best - all of which will generate significant traffic, pollution, etc.

I think that counsellors should actually come and visit this small community, rather than make assumptions based on erroneous planning application data - this is a small farming community, not some potential urbanisation opportunity.

Regards

Simon Scrivens