

To whom it may concern,

I am emailing to respond to the local plan consultation regarding Somerby south SOM2 MBC/023/16.

Myself and my husband bought our property 10 west view, Somerby 15 years ago, specifically as it was we thought a good prospect that prevented our Autistic son from the risk of being disturbed by any potential further developments adjacent to our property, with the surrounding land owned by Earnest cooks trust. As we all know earnest cooks trust were set up to protect and preserve land.

In actual fact our land/garden is subject to covenants on it preventing us from doing many things including not being allowed to have a high fence above 3ft along the outer boundary and it even has to be a certain type of fence due to their desire to preserve the look and appearance on this treasured part of the village.

As you may understand we are horrified that this land is now being looked at as a potential housing site, for many reasons, some personal, some more community based reasons, I shall do my best to elaborate.

Firstly as already mentioned, our son Thomas is severely Autistic and is now nearing the end of education and will soon be 16, we looked at moving earlier this year as his needs will mean he is unable to live as most children growing up and still needs 24 hour supervision and has complex ongoing medical needs, the idea of moving was far too upsetting for him and we in the end decided to adapt our home to enable him to live independently in the future, whilst still under our supervision, we have indeed been in negotiations with melton council regarding purchasing the amenity land next to us so that we can extend our property to provide for his and our long term future.

The reason we chose where we are is because we are not overlooked and whilst we are still part of the village we are also private, peaceful and uninterrupted living here, Thomas is adversely affected by noises and motion, it was impossible to find anything similar when we looked at moving with the same property value.

Secondly, I am unfortunately now disabled due to an accident, and in receipt of 86 hours a week care, part funded by the NHS and part funded by the social services, my carers live the other end of the village which when suffering adverse weather is a huge comfort, again we were about to submit plans to the council after already meeting with 2 architects to adapt the house to provide for my needs of a wheelchair friendly space. Whilst this is not many people's issues, to be now waiting for consultation, and the slow wheels of planning to take place to see if this plan I am opposing goes through, we will now be in a position that will prevent us from submitting plans as the cost of our rebuild and renovations will be in excess of

£200,000. A lot of money on top of the house value to spend, for a huge development to then be stuck right next to us, ruining our view, peace, tranquillity and life going forward, never mind the disruption that living next to such a development would cause any normal person, but it will completely destroy the appeal of our house and any likely resale value, putting us in a prejudiced position of negative equity, and a house that will be near impossible to sell looking onto a housing estate, that is not why anyone would likely want to buy this house now. Never mind the fact to try and sell before the final decisions will be made will likely be impossible.

Furthermore, the impact of living next to such a development through the building process will be just horrendous for us and our family, but much worse for our autistic son, who can not cope with noises and anything unexpected, if you look back to the reports made to stop the windmill planning application submitted by Mr Barnes , Thomas had a medical report detailing these effects and was one of the reasons it was stopped from going through, this was nothing compared to being forced to see a building site, to cope with noise and drilling and equipment vibrations that the normal person often isn't even aware of, he is facing 2 and a half more years in education, and is struggling as it is, this will completely ruin any chance he has of achieving anything because he will become more tired, more stressed and volatile.

On a more global note, personally I feel this proposal will destroy the village, Somerby is a small village with small streets and is a small parish of mainly locals, a development as such as this will ruin the local feel bringing in commuters and larger families, further stretching the inadequate facilities we already have, the village school is not big enough to cope, the village Doctors is already at breaking point, the bus service is getting worse and is at such irregular times it's of no use for people seeking to use it for transport to employment. The local roads are treacherous, there is already too much traffic going through the village, there is daily flare ups and accidents with vehicles regularly damaged all along the high street, we are already beyond traffic capacity, it is lethal!

The village electric supplies are unreliable in any inclement weather and power cuts are already a regular problem. The village drainage is terrible, whenever there is any heavy rain fall the drains can not cope as it is, personally we already suffer with flash flooding, especially in the field ear marked for this development and the roads are treacherous when there is ice, and when it snows the village is quickly cut off and impassable. adding any further traffic when the high street can not take the regular traffic as it is just irresponsible.

Furthermore the field in question is the only part of the village without recent development, it is still in it's own natural state and is part of the local hunting, walking and historic walked area, used by many daily and needs preserving before the last part of the village is ruined. The enjoyment of the rural walks and country paths is used by many, the proposed development is likely to ruin it forever more.

On a practical note the site access is totally unacceptable, again the impact will ruin this side of the village aesthetically forever but the road layouts are unsafe already and this part of the village is not suitable for construction traffic or more daily traffic onto these roads. The village sewerage is not capable of taking this extra strain in this area and the water supply from mains already has poor pressure and is not capable of supplying more.

All in all there are many more suitable locations for this kind of development, Somerby is not one of them, and I like to point out that we will fight this vigorously and have the financial means to do so. Villages like Somerby are now in the minority and need protecting from urbanisation not doubling in size, otherwise before long it there will no longer be village life as we know it.

I look forward to hearing your response.

Kind regards

Nicola Morley

