

From: Baker, Andrew
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2016 1:57 PM
To: david.thompson@scamb.gov.uk
Cc: clerk@swavesey.org.uk ; lyndaharford@icloud.com ; Head at Swavesey Primary
Subject: Planning application S/1027/16/OL

Dear Mr Thompson

Ref: Planning application S/1027/16/OL

We write as the Governing Body at Swavesey Primary School in response to the above Planning Application.

The Governing Body at Swavesey Primary School would urge the District Council to consider the following points when making a decision on the application.

1. The school has undergone a 24% increase in student numbers over the last 3 years and has struggled to provide enough space to maintain the standard of education we aim to provide. We have recently undergone a building project which brings no increase in capacity whatsoever, it simply allows our current students to be housed in permanent classrooms instead of temporary accommodation. As a result it has also considerably decreased the schools outside space and playground areas, meaning further expansion is not an option without significantly decreasing the outdoor space available to the children.
2. There are already families living in Swavesey who have one child at Swavesey Primary school and their other child has to attend a neighbouring village school as there is not space for them at Swavesey Primary School as well.
3. In addition to this there has recently been approval on appeal for a further 30 houses in Swavesey, therefore the numbers of children needing to attend the primary school will increase still further in the near future.
4. **Bearing this in mind how is the school going to cope with the large numbers of children that a further development of 90 houses will bring to the village?**
5. Were the development to go ahead the majority of children living in the new houses would have to go to neighbouring village schools. This would severely impact on parking and traffic issues both in Swavesey and the neighbouring villages with the Primary school being on the main road through the village.
6. Despite this, Bloor Homes have stated in an application for a housing development in Over that Swavesey Primary school will take the children from the development in Over as Over Primary school is full and has no room for expansion! We have had no contact from either Bloor homes or the LEA regarding this proposal. We do not have physical space to take these children. In addition we are already concerned about the safety of children arriving at and leaving our school, Middlewatch is extremely congested and narrow and will become more so as the new houses approved in Swavesey are constructed, let alone potentially 90 additional houses in Swavesey and the children from a proposed 58 houses in Over (all of whom would have to be driven to Swavesey). This potentially huge increase in traffic would simply not be viable and make the walk to school for Swavesey students difficult and dangerous. This increase in traffic would genuinely put children from Swavesey at a serious

risk of injury or worse every time they walk to school. We would encourage representatives from the council to come and visit Middlewatch as the children walk to school between 8.45-9 am in the morning to see the current situation for themselves and consider the impact of further development.

We would very much appreciate it if you could take these concerns into consideration when making a decision regarding this proposal.

Swavesey is not able to cope with an additional development of this size without a serious impact on the Primary school. We are concerned about the impact of such a development on the quality of education we can provide and the health and safety of our children.

Thank you very much.

Kind regards
Andrew Baker

On behalf of Swavesey Primary School Governing Body

Swavesey Primary School
Middle Watch