

Objection Moneystone PARK SMD/2014/0682

The application to construct a Holiday Village in the former quarry at Moneystone will be life changing (and not in a good way) for those of us who live in the villages of the Mid-Churnet Valley, particularly Whiston and Oakamoor.

The junction of the A52 with Whuston Eaves Lane is a dangerous junction to negotiate at the best of times due to the speed of traffic and the poor visibility afforded by the proximity of the bend on the Kingsley side of the junction. Traffic speeds downhill from Cauldon are already much higher than the published speed limit and therefore the proposed reduction of that limit from 40mph to 30mph will have little impact on vehicular speed since the natural speed for the road is around 50mph. Additionally there is insufficient distance for the construction of a safe ghost island configuration for the junction to accommodate the probable volume of vehicles requiring to turn right into Whiston Eaves Lane. Tailbacks towards the steep downhill tight bend on the Kingsley side of the junction are inevitable.

Sat Navs direct people down Carr Bank from the gates of the proposed Holiday Village to Alton Towers. The condition that customers of the holiday village use only the A52 route to Alton Towers is not enforceable and therefore most people will take the short cut and thus endanger themselves and local residents of Oakamoor by their actions. The centre of Oakamoor is always congested and difficult to negotiate with numerous parked vehicles being present between the village hall and the Cricketers Arms. Farley road too is a dangerous road to negotiate with accidents common - some causing injury.

Blakeley Lane is unsuitable for the expected volumes of traffic expected at the Holiday Village, but would be a better route to and from the venue if improved and other measures taken to avoid traffic using Whiston Eaves Lane and Carr Bank. Possibly by improving the tunnel under Eaves Lane to take all traffic to Blakeley Lane?

With the recent tree felling by the Forestry Commission the whole project has become more intrusive than ever and therefore the noise and light pollution levels expected will be worsened. Furthermore the current Environmental Impact Assessments are no longer valid and will need to be readdressed.

It is a disgrace that the quarry wasn't fully restored as per the conditions imposed on the site previous owners and as such democracy and common decency are being subverted for private profit on the basis of a few extra jobs which will be unlikely to be filled by local people thus increasing further traffic volumes in the area.

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