

Application Reference No. : SMD/2021/0307 Site Address: Knypersley Mill Farm Judgefield Lane
Brown Edge Staffordshire ST6 8UG Stoke-On-Trent Comments by: Stephanie Burns

From:

Pool Dam Cottage
Judgefield Lane
Brown Edge
Brown Edge
Staffordshire
ST6 8UG

Submission: Objection

Comments: I wish to object to the change of use for the menage and agricultural barn to storage for caravans. It does not meet an essential need for the area and I can see no reason why such a facility needs to be located in the countryside; it is not an essential rural facility in this Greenbelt location.

A caravan storage facility would do nothing to enhance the natural and historic environment: indeed, it would detract from it. Furthermore, it would not preserve the openness of the Greenbelt: the storage facility is visible from multiple public vantage points and is completely out of character for this special Greenbelt location.

Additionally, the proposal and potential increased number of public visitors would impact the privacy and amenity of the residents of the Grade II listed Knypersley Mill; the proposal fails to respect their rights.

Regarding the impact on the local economy, this proposed 'public tourist facility' would be a commercial enterprise with limited gain for the area. I fail to understand how people storing caravans on site would benefit the local economy: surely the people storing their caravans (whether current long-term residents of the existing Caravan and Camping Club certified site and shepherds' huts or other members of the public) would collect them to then take them elsewhere for their breaks 'i.e. out of the area'?

Also, it fails to respect the built agricultural environment. This area has remained substantially undeveloped and unspoilt for well over a century. Most recent development on farmsteads has been essential for the functioning of the agricultural properties, e.g. additional buildings and houses at Judgefield Farm and Greenway Bank Farm to accommodate the next generation of farming families on their own farm sites and to sustain farming practice. A caravan storage facility would not be in keeping with the character of the setting, as such premises are.

I also wish to express concern at the potential impact upon the highway; caravans arriving at the site have been known to cause traffic ħflowħ/blockage problems on the 90° bend as they negotiate the entrance to the site and also on the narrow hill as they ascend or descend Judgefield Lane.

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