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To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
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Application Reference No. : SMD/2021/0189 Site Address: Land at Anvil Drive Biddulph Staffordshire ST8 7FB Stoke-On-Trent Comments by: Wendy Shufflebotham

From:

Sprinkview Cottage
Under the hill
Biddulph Moor
Stoke on Trent

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Neither

Comments: As a former resident of 17, Smithy Lane from 1969 to 1994, I would like to comment on this application and provide the authority with what I know, from living there.

An underground water course runs, from what was Selectus Mill, through the little valley and under no's 13 and 15 Smithy Lane. I recall as a child walking with my late Dad, down into the dip from Oxhey Drive and back up to The Uplands, a water filled and boggy area, adopted by a large quantity of marsh grass. The land was then owned by Pointon's, who had the bungalow adjacent to Anvil Drive. Opposite no 17 was a field, owned also by Pointon's and the field was quite boggy. During periods of wet weather, a brook formed and ran towards Smithy Lane. Upon purchase of no 17, in 1969, my Dad was informed by his Father in Law, Daniel Lancaster, who was a bricklayer/Stonemason, that No's 13 and 15 were slowly sinking. He could see the drop in the brickwork above the bedroom windows and the roof line. As the years went by, the brickwork above the front bedroom windows started to crack and the windows warped. During the 1980's, both properties were pile driven to a substantial depth and the workers spoke to my Dad about how water logged the ground was, the moment that the floor boards were lifted, before work even started. It was intensive work and lasted for some months. Both properties were rendered to cover the repairs to the brickwork. I recall, on many occasions the manhole cover and drain covers lifting in extreme wet weather and both no 15 and no 17 endured flooding. It has surprised me at how many houses have been built on what has and still is very wet ground. I'm not surprised about the flooding either. My late Dad often reported the flooding.

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