



Fourlyn, Sandy Lane

Brown Edge

Stoke on Trent

Staffordshire

31st July 2023

Application No – SMD/2023/0282

Applicant's Name - Mr David Morrey

Location - Land off Sandy Lane, Brown Edge

Proposed Development – Proposed detached dwelling

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally register my objection to the proposed planning of this dwelling.

Over the last few years we have seen many local changes within our small village, in particular around the Sandy Lane area, particularly, the building of 7 dwellings which has deprived the village of its character and changed the appearance of this part of Brown Edge, which has now lost much of its green space to urban development. The local School no longer has enough spaces to accept any more children, as one of the residents of these recently built houses has found out to their detriment, having to look outside of their village for a place for their children to be educated in, obviously outside their local community.

Within the proposed area of the planned dwelling there used to be a wildlife pond where neighbouring water used to drain into, this has now been filled in by the developer and since this, neighbours are now suffering drainage issues, flooding being an area of concern at this location. Situated on the edge of where the wildlife pond used to be is a mature weeping willow, which if the proposed plan goes ahead will have to be destroyed. This destruction of a mature tree would dramatically change the landscape enjoyed by local residents, again, depriving the village of its character, surely as we are in the middle of a climate change catastrophe the felling of this tree, not to mention previously felled trees during previous application SMD 2013/0638 we should be preserving these said tree and open spaces and not allowing them to be overtaken by greed and more urban developments.

In 2013 as part of application SMD/2013/0638, our own garden pond was part of a Newt survey, which was undertaken covering the proposed plan. The survey found Greater Crested Newts were present in our pond. Since then the Greater Crested Newts have returned annually to breed in our pond, only migrating within the last few weeks into the

open green space, which is now under this new proposed planning application. As far as I am aware, the habitats of these endangered creatures are protected by law, and any interference with their ponds or habitat is strictly forbidden. Since our garden pond is probably, about 15 Meters away from the now recently filled in wildlife pond, surely this would be seen as interference with the habitat of these newts and potentially an offence has been committed by the proposed developer when filling in the wildlife pond.

Yours Sincerely

—
Paul Clacker,