
From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
Sent: 10 August 2023 12:18
To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : SMD/2023/0277 Site Address: Westwood Hall Farm Westwood Park Drive Leek
Staffordshire ST13 8NW Comments by: Geoff Tomkinson

From:
15
Valley Drive
Westwood
Leek
Staffs
ST13 8NQ

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: My wife & I wish to object to the plans outlined for Westwood Hall Farm. There are three applications (SMD/2023/0277; SMD/2023/0276; SMD/2023/0275) for beef & calf rearing & our objection would encompass all three.

The proposals are on an industrial scale (800 head of cattle) which is totally unsuited to the farm's location within a residential area. The farm has not been used for anything like this scale during the last 40 years (at least).

The local road infrastructure is absolutely not suitable to accommodate large trucks necessary for transporting cattle & the large amount of foodstuff which would be required for such a herd.

There is only one access point to the farm. The transport required to farm on this scale will pass along narrow residential roads which are already in a poor state of repair & will need to pass 4 schools (and directly next to Westwood College) which already create considerable congestion at varying times of the day. The lorries will also present a danger to children walking to & from school. The noise of the cattle & the associated smell will not be conducive to learning & taking exams, particularly when windows & doors have to be left open because of the increasing periods of hot weather.

Waste could also leak from the lorries during transportation in the wider town areas. The air pollution caused by the heavy vehicles in built-up areas is another environmental issue.

There seems to be no provision being made to remove the effluent from the fields & rearing pens & it could possibly seep into the River Churnet. The associated smells are likely to be dispersed into the residential areas & beyond.

The council has declared an environmental emergency & this plan would only worsen our environment.

The methane produced by the cattle will be environmentally detrimental. CO2 & NO2 gases from the transport vehicles would further worsen the local environment at a time when we should be trying to reduce emissions.

There is no account taken of the environmental issues or heritage assets in the application: we understand from friends that hedgerows & trees have already been cut down on the site; cattle have already escaped into neighbouring areas. It appears that no comment has been made regarding the proximity to grade 2 listed buildings. From an environmental & health & welfare consideration, this plan is an unmitigated disaster.

Geoff & Marilyn Tomkinson

15, Valley Drive, LEEK.

Do you really need to print out this Email? Be green - keep it on the screen.

This email is intended for the addressee(s) only and may contain sensitive, privileged or confidential information that could be protectively marked. If you are not the addressee please do not use the information in any way. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender immediately and delete it from your system. Thank you.

The Council may be required to disclose this email or any responses to it under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The way in which we handle personal information is set out in our privacy notice and is available at <https://www.staffs Moorlands.gov.uk/YourData>
