

Lynn Freeland

From: Peter Davison [Peter.Davison22@btinternet.com]
Sent: 11 June 2010 12:44
To: Programme Officer; Lynn Freeland
Subject: Re: Application to build on field opposite Ham Street School, Ashford Road, believed to have been submitted by Hobbs Parker on behalf of Mr Gotke

Dear Lynn,

Further to our phone conversation of this morning, herewith my corrected letter for the Inspector.

Confirmation of receipt of this email and that it will be shown to the Inspector would be appreciated.

Regards,

Peter

Application to build on field opposite Ham Street School, Ashford Road, believed to have been submitted by Hobbs Parker on behalf of Mr Gotke.

Dear Sir,

I confirm that I support the Council's position in refusing this application.

I am a Borough Councillor for this Ward. I have lived in Orlestone, in which the village of Ham Street sits, since 1947.

To my knowledge an overwhelming number of Ham Street residents want to live in the open countryside and enjoy a village way of life. The village which currently has a population of circa 1600 people is fearful of being overwhelmed by development, or worse still being connected by strip development to Ashford. Over the last 40 years it has had a series of developments imposed on it, eg Fairfield Terraces, Bournemouth, Carter's Wood, Bankside, St Mary's Close, Lancaster Close and Orlestone View. Villagers believed that this was enough and under the current Ashford growth plans wanted no more than some 30 dwellings. However Ham Street was allocated a finite figure of 90 new dwellings and found land for them at Lancaster Close stage 2 and Parker Farm.

These two sites are relatively central and concentric to allow walkability to the services at the centre of the village (the Street).

The application for Ashford Road is unwanted and is not supported by me or the Parish Council. It is too far out of the village, and is on the Ashford route. The village has no need for the houses and development on this rising land would be visually intrusive. It would cause harm to the appearance and character of the local countryside.

Ham Street School, of which I am a governor, has been approached for what seems to be a request to support the application in return for some form of offer to make available common areas of play space. The School has made it quite clear that they want nothing to do with such a proposal.

To summarise, Ham Street village has no need for such a development, it does not want it, it is outside the village, and believes it would be harmful to the visual amenity.

regards,

Cllr Peter Davison
Weald South Ward member