



Shaw Residents' Association

Serving the Residents of Peatmoor, Sparcells, Nine Elms, Middleleaze, Shaw and Ramleaze

26 September 2011

Shaw Residents Association position with respect to the application for the development of 50 more houses at Moredon Bridge

Dear Ms Smith – WCC Case Officer

The Shaw Residents Association (SRA) would like to put on record its objection to the planning application for 50 more houses at Moredon Bridge (Application number 11/02763/FUL).

The SRA believes that the current 200 home development will have a significant impact on the local infrastructure, in particular the local roads and exacerbate the potential for more flooding in the area. Now that Wiltshire County Council has published its Core Strategy, the SRA believes that the content of this document alone requires planning officers to reject this new 50 home application. Our rationale for this argument is explained below. Statements in quotations are taken from the WCC Core Strategy. These are then followed by SRA commentary on the statement as it pertains to the Moredon Bridge site:

- “Strategic objective 1: to deliver a thriving economy which provides a range of job opportunities”:
 - Any further development of the Moredon Bridge site would not provide any long term job opportunities for the people of Swindon.
- “Strategic objective 4: - to build resilient communities”:
 - Expanding a WCC development on the very edge of Swindon Borough Council (SBC) land will mean revenues from this development go to WCC whereas many of the costs in supporting this community will effectively be borne by SBC. As such any investments in integrating such a community into the wider Swindon community will take a low priority given the revenue / cost profile. This does not help build “resilient communities”.
- “Strategic objective 9: to ensure that infrastructure is in place to support our communities”:
 - Any further development of the Moredon Bridge site will have significant impact on the local infrastructure, especially road links. Plans to improve the local infrastructure to support this additional development do not seem to be in place.
- “Strategic objective 10: to minimise the risk of flooding”:
 - Much of the Moredon Bridge site lies on or near a flood plain.
- “The strategic location of Wootton Bassett and low number of jobs compared to the population provides an opportunity to expand the employment base significantly. Therefore Wootton Bassett will be the location of strategic employment growth to help reduce out commuting”:
 - Any further development of the Moredon Bridge site has the potential for 100% of the residents commuting out of WCC into Swindon. This seems contrary to the intent within the Core Strategy.



West Swindon based Shaw Residents' Association (SRA) provides a forum for the residents of Peatmoor, Sparcells, Nine Elms, Middleleaze, Shaw and Ramleaze to work with statutory authorities, voluntary organizations, businesses etc to protect and improve the environment and facilities for residents.

email: shaw-residents@virginmedia.com Web: <http://www.shawresidents.org.uk/>



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- “The community area may be seen as being at risk from unchecked expansion of the nearby higher order centre of Swindon. However, protecting the open countryside, as well as the uniqueness of individual settlements, both of which the Core Strategy recognises are prized objectives by the local community, are therefore an important objective for this strategy and will be taken forward by appropriate and strong policy mechanisms”:
 - Any further development of the Moredon Bridge site clearly flies in the face of this statement.

Thank you for taking our views into consideration.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Snowden – SRA Chair



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