



Shaw Residents' Association

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

25 April 2011

Shaw Residents Association position with respect to the proposed developments at Ridgeway farm and Tadpole farm

Dear Robert Buckland MP and Councillors Martin, Williams and Perkins

The Shaw Residents Association (SRA) is pleased to note that the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) has been scrapped by central government. The Core Strategy that has replaced it promises to give more accountability to locally elected representatives and an improved model for local residents to have an input into any development proposals. This is good for local democracy. The SRA fully understands that Swindon must meet the housing needs of the present and the future.

However, today residents of Shaw have two development proposals that will have a major impact on their quality of life particularly when it comes to traffic congestion on roads such as Mead Way. These proposals are known as "Tadpole Farm" and "Ridgeway Farm". Whilst the former is within the boundaries of Swindon Borough Council, the latter is not. Despite formal written objections from approximately 350 local residents, all the local SBC councillors and both Swindon MP's voicing their objections, it seems the development may well take place. Clearly democracy is not working in this instance highlighted still further with Wiltshire councillors representing Cricklade, Purton and Lydiard Millicent also objecting to the proposals.

Given this scenario, it seems that the only choice the people of Shaw have is Ridgeway Farm AND Tadpole Farm developments or just Ridgeway Farm. The SRA is therefore against any development at the Tadpole Farm site should Ridgeway Farm be approved. We therefore call on our elected representatives to re-double their efforts in ensuring democracy prevails in ensuring the development of Ridgeway Farm is not approved. Until this happens the SRA calls on SBC to place the Tadpole Farm proposals on ice.

Should Ridgeway Farm be cancelled and a clear strategy put in place to ensure it never resurfaces, the SRA believes that consultations on Tadpole Farm can then re-start. At this stage, the SRA will review the new proposals and take a position based on the views of the community. If Ridgeway Farm goes ahead, then the SRA demands that the Tadpole Farm proposals are scrapped.

Yours Sincerely

Andrew Snowden – SRA Chair



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.

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