

From: [REDACTED]
To: wldp
Subject: Objection to proposal for re-zoning - Site Reference: H-LL12, Location: Preston Farm Field, Settlement: Linlithgow
Date: 10 November 2015 10:45:15

Good morning,

I understand that this email will be acceptable as an objection (as confirmed with Steve Lovell from WLC) to the proposed re-zoning of Preston Field for the purpose of housing. My name is Kevin Laahs and I live at [REDACTED]. My email address is [REDACTED] and I am making this submission as an individual representing my own views. This is the first time I have made a written representation on the Proposed Plan.

I have three main objections to the Proposed Plan to change the long-standing environmental designation of Preston Field from an Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) to housing as follows:-

- 1) **Pastoral views obliterated** – any housing in any part of Preston field would obliterate very pleasing and peaceful pastoral views – not just from within Deanburn but from other locations around the town – in particular from the canal. I currently enjoy immensely the vista presented to me as I travel up and down [REDACTED] to my home and when I regularly walk along the canal and modern housing in any part of the field would destroy this for the whole community.
- 2) **Road safety** – any housing in any part of Preston field would increase significantly the amount of traffic up and down [REDACTED] (assuming [REDACTED] would be used as the main access) as well as Preston Road. I'm sure the council are well aware of the traffic/capacity issues that exist already on Preston Road and the safety issues this brings to everyone – in particular young children. My son has special needs and has in the recent past attended Donaldsons School and we managed to get him to a stage where he could walk by himself from our house to Donaldsons. We were only happy to do this as the only roads he had to cross, [REDACTED] and the entrance to Deanburn Park, were not overly busy (busy enough but not so busy that there would not be a decent gap without having to wait for a long time to cross). Any increase in traffic into Deanburn would simply make the roads even more dangerous to cross – particularly for people with special needs such as those that attend Donaldsons.
- 3) **Safety over Canal Bridge and through Deanburn** – any housing in Preston Field would result in increased footfall, and probably bicycles, going through Deanburn. The pathways in Deanburn are not designed for bicycles but anyone living in Preston Field would doubtless traverse through Deanburn in order to speed their way into town and/or to school. This would affect the safety of those who currently walk the paths in Deanburn. I would also imagine that some connection from Preston Field to the Canal Bridge (“Katie Shaw’s Brig”) would be implemented which would make it easier for people to get from Preston Field to the school. I imagine this would encourage people to use the Bridge for bicycles and for walking. As this Bridge is Grade B listed I would be very concerned about the possibility of its well-being being jeopardized by this increase in traffic and whatever changes might be required to ensure it is still a safe place to cross should housing be built close to the high and

steep banks of the canal at this point.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above points with me please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,
Kevin Laahs