

WOL/LDP/PP/0184

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W.L.O.
D&RS GROUP SUPPORT

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FAO
Development Planning & Environment Manager
Fiona Mc Brierty
Development Planning West Lothian Civic Center
Howden South Road
Livingston
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Dear Fiona
Further to my recent telephone conversation

We write to record our concerns regarding the proposed local development plan for the sites on either side of our house ie E-LV13 & E-LV14
Formerly known as Eliburn Campus North West Development Area referred to in the Eliburn North West Proposed Development Plan 1996

While we are aware this is not a planning application as yet , a fair number of items give us a great deal of concern. Every time a planning Application has been proposed in the past we were not given neighbour notification until we complained|

On the supplied Map 3 [REDACTED] "is in fact obscured by the site name E-LV13 , any one considering a development might think there is no house there " After all it is the only house around"

Over the the years we have continued to request some form of personal involvement in the suitable development near our house, We are not totally against any suitable proposal, we keep saying that previous assurances given to us by former heads of the planning department should be honoured , I refer to The Eliburn North West Development Proposal.

Site E-LV14

At Appleton Parkway Roundabout a surface /flood water collection pond to catch & store flood water and release it slowly was constructed , as part of the flood defences ,will this be retained

There appears to be little concern placed on the geological underground workings in this area although the whole of site E- LV14 has been deep drilled on a number of occasions This area has been mined for coal and large scale room &stooop shale workings and has been zoned previously as suitable for single storey development, with large raft type foundations

The" Middleton hall" fault is a well documented major under ground fault line,it runs north easterly through this site

Sinks and issues / collapses of mine workings, which have occurred on numerous occasions, these are a major consideration for any proposed development

In LV-14 There is a 250 mm high pressure gas main just outside the bund fence to the south&east boundary of shcoolhouse

We had agreed to a raised bund or mound of soil with trees/shrubs planted on it, constructed to the South and East of our house, this was done by Livingston Development Corporation before Houston Rd West was constructed, the bund & trees was to give us some screening and noise protection from the" Houston Road West" and Appleton Parkway Roundabout & any proposed future developments, it was agreed this would be maintained & stay in place.

Site E-LV13

We note there is no firm cmmitment to a location of the road access to E-LV13

In LV13 there is a 250mm distribution water main in a T shape running from the under the railway, through the wood up to Houston road west, This is the main supply to not only the industrail area to the South to Shinetsu & the Cematorium onto Kirkton Campus and West to LIDL

but also East to [REDACTED]

Moving this water main was one reason why the site was considered uneconomical to develop in the past

Since the construction of [REDACTED]“,

It is currently an un adopted road ,It is not maintained by WLC

There are no arrangements for snow ploughing/ griting or grass cutting.

We have been plagued by lorries arriving from all corners of EEC they park up with diesel powered refrigeration units running all night , these and other vehicles see the road as overnight parking to give them access to LIDL, which will not allow them in overnight or untill the early morning this leads to these vehicles arriving late at night, banging the cab doors when going out to use the area as a toilet, Then in the early hours starting and reving their engines to get their air brakes working and leaving to try to be first into LIDL at opening time . Many vehicles trying to gain access to LIDL block the Barracks roundabout , causing conjection to through traffic who are unable the get past

We are daily disturbed by a stream of private hire taxi drivers ,mostly waiting to get called to Livingston North Station, using the turning area to the west of us, as a toilet or to dump their fast food wrappers after eating lunch

We have had several times where travelers complete with caravans/ vehicles & dogs have camped /parked on the roadway partly blocking our access and leaving the usual rubbish behind, last time they were here for 5 weeks ,

We have been disturbed in the early hours by them running petrol powered disc cutters to cut scrap metal / cables

The clean up squad sent by WLC to clean up behind them are disgusted at the mess left behind , every place where the travelers have camped and are then are forced to move on.

Westlothian traveler liason officer told us they were not able to move them after consulting WLC s legal department . **THEY SHOULD NOT BE CRIMINALISED** say the police

When not being disturbed by the travelers we regularly have late night revelers arrive playing loud music and dumping fast food wrappers and drinks cans, then using the turning area for fast driving manouvers,hand brake turns etc then screaming out to the roundabout and away.

On 4 occasions we have been disturbed from sleep by vehicles driving off at speed, the following morning on checking where they had been parked ,ie the west turning area we have found up to 4 black bin bags each time, containing stripped cannabis plants in large bucket sized pots ,we reported this to Police Scotland control room , on 4 times they never even bothered to respond or even to call us back

When we phone Police Scotland regarding the unauthorized lorries or other fly tipping/ dumping or to have the travelers moved, they simply say they have no powers as this is a private road , On the last occasion british transport police did finally get the travelers to move

West Lothian Council cleared away most of the rubbish , but numerous places where solid waste and paper was not cleared up. There are of course no toilet s available

The Pedestrian crossing on [REDACTED] was constructed to give access to the underpass Houston Road West

Persons , dog walkers and cyclists are prone to walking / cycling at speed onto and then up the roadway and seem to think its for them only!. it is still a road to our house and requires suitable signs to make them aware there are still vehicles using it There is a footpath provided , which is seldom used

The crossing appears to be built too high, large vehicles coming to our house and to carry out networkrail repairs , complain of striking their tow bar on the raised crossing, numerous scapes on the tarmac are clearly visiable even when driving at low speed

We consider the only way to stop the continued disruption on [REDACTED] is to erect a temporary lockable barrier which could be accessed by authorized vehicles ,as required, we have spoken to both WLC and to british transport police who would see no problem with a barrier, We did ask for this barrier at the original construction stage

All partys agree its only a matter of time till the travelers are moved by Legal eviction means from some other unlawful site and arrive back here. We are told each enforcment can cost thousands

They have no previous rights to set up an emcampment here!

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We would welcome your departments further comments, to further our peace and quiet

ps Built in 1915 the "Livingston Station" school house is now 100years old

Yours sincerely

Robert & Maureen Sommerville