

From: [REDACTED]
To: [wldp](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: LP Ref - HBg 24
Date: 19 November 2015 09:07:09

Dear Sirs,

I write in respect of the above application. Can I be clear that I fervently OBJECT to any plans for additional housing to be crammed into a green space behind our estate and most significantly for plans to take construction traffic and, ultimately, up to 100 additional residents cars and related commercial traffic up a quiet residential street that is not fit for this purpose.

Furthermore, the plan to bring a very significant volume of additional traffic through a section of road where around 25 young children play is not safe, sensible or viable.

In relation to this process, I am extremely frustrated that, having lived in my current house which faces onto the road which will receive most additional traffic for around 8 years, I have not been consulted on the plans up until now and have been given 2 working days in which to respond. Had I been on holiday at this time, I can only assume that this proposal would have been pushed through without my input – what are the local authority here for if not to serve the residents of the local area ?? It feels very much like this plan was being sneaked through the process – this is absolutely reprehensible behaviour by those responsible.

In respect of my objection, I have a number of logical reasons to object :

1. The narrow road, already subject to traffic calming measures due to it's narrowness and the number of small children in the estate, is not fit for additional traffic even in the best of weather conditions. To consider routing construction traffic through a series of narrow bends in very close proximity to houses makes no sense and is dangerous. I wonder if anyone at the local authority has actually visited the road to consider the practical impact of the proposal ? In terms of the road's construction, I would also question whether it is fit for purpose as we have already suffered collapsed drains (repaired only last week) and other damage to the road from the use of the existing small population of residents.
2. The road, in the winter, becomes unpassable. I live half-way up the hill on this road and in the 8 years I've lived there have had to leave my car on Marjoribanks St for around 12 weeks due to the hill being unpassable, even with a 4 wheel-drive car. To consider up to 100 additional cars trying to make that passage in the winter, including a further series of steep bends past my house, is not sensible or safe.
3. The residents of the estate paid a very high premium on purchasing our houses due to the location and the size of the estate (ie, it is a quiet community, safe to allow children to play in). To consider extending this population on the hill by a further 100-200% and the related traffic, will significantly devalue our investment in those houses. It was always my understanding that the field under consideration may be built upon, but that access to that estate would be through the Veteran's Cottages road, which does not have the same density of housing or population along it, and which is a significantly straighter route to the top field.
4. Building on what is part of Bathgate's greenbelt will ruin the aesthetic of this part of town. It is also questionable, given the gradient on the hill, whether it is sensible at all to

consider building more properties on it. I understand that Miller Homes, who built our properties, would not consider further development on this site due to the logistical and ultimately safety issues of attempting to secure the foundations of properties and their adjoining gardens on a steep embankment.

I would be very grateful if you could consider my objection when making your final determination on this application.

Kind regards,

Alan

Alan Aitchison

Resident of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]