

West Lothian Council
Development Management
Date 17 OCT 2011
Ref No. M1R0231
Ref To

WLC REF = -M1R0231



To Development and Planning Unit
West Lothian Council

I OBJECT TO THE INCLUSION OF HOUSING SITE E01 - 0168 (PRESTON FARM,
LINLITHGOW) IN THE MAIN ISSUES REPORT FOR THESE REASONS:

1 CONTRADICTION IN THE MAIN ISSUES REPORT

The land in question has AGLV status and lies outwith Linlithgow Settlement. In the Council's own Landscape Designation Review it is shown to have an enhanced level of environmental protection as a Core Special Landscape Area of the adjoining Bathgate Hills

2 PUBLIC AMENITY

The farmland gives spectacular public views of the listed Preston House, the surrounding Ancient Woodland and Cockleroy from the South along the Deanburn Road. These views are highly valued by the residents and building on this site would obliterate these vistas.

3 ENVIRONMENT

The Council's own policy is to preserve and protect the wildlife in this area in particular the habitat of less common species of wildlife all of which would be threatened by development of this site. The following species (some now less common in this area) have been observed and are of importance:

Hedgehog, weasel, pygmy shrew, water vole, water rat and bats - Frog and Newt (2 species)
Sparrow-hawk, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Waxwing, Redwing, Lark and Owl - Damselfly,
Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, and Painted Lady Butterflies, Bumble and Solitary bees
Native Orchid

The around the field is Ancient Woodland which is protected by TPO's. Additional housing will threaten this habitat.

4 FLOODING

During the building of Donaldson's School my house was affected by flooding from water run-off apparently from incorrect construction of the drainage from the school site.

Since then a damaged sewer situated very near the surface of the field has released raw sewage close to my house. Basaltic rock clearly exposed in my garden where the Dean Burn cuts deeply through it to pass under the canal could potentially cause further drainage problems.

5 SCHOOLING

Linlithgow Primary School is oversubscribed. Up to fifty additional families will increase the pressure on places. The current traffic bottleneck on Preston Road presents a hazard to children. Any new development could only exit via Deanburn Road to Preston Road . Further increase the numbers of children will compound this present problem.

6 HEALTHCARE

Dr David Cochran, G.P. in charge of Linlithgow Family Practice, retired recently. All efforts by the authorities since then have failed to find a successor and he continues to provide care. Adding a further 150 patients will only aggravate this current serious situation.

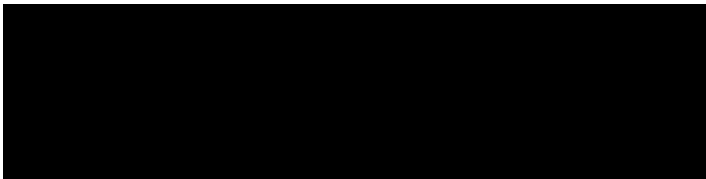
7 NEIGHBOURHOOD

I am concerned that recent local searches which recognised the AGLV status of this farmland and the rejection of all past building proposals are not being taken into account by this present application.

Many Deanburn residents chose this child safe, quiet and secure area as an ideal location to settle and raise a family. This new development will only have an adverse affect the factors which brought them to the Deanburn area in the first place.

I urge you to remove this site from the Housing List and Forthcoming Local Plan

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.