

2, Woodside Cottages,  
Nr. Halton,  
Chirk,  
Wrexham,  
LL14 5AY.

Your Ref- P/2015/0225

28<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Subject: - Section 78 appeal for planning permission for use of Gypsy/traveller pitches adjacent to the bungalow, old Black Park road, Halton, Chirk, Wrexham.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this letter to strongly object to the appeal for planning permission for the above address. I have tried to explain and capture the reasons for my objection, but if you are not local it may be hard to visualise our predicament. This county lane has no footpath for at least 90% of its length. Please could you take the time to read on.

As a local resident in this area for more than 20 years, I purchased my property because of its quiet, semi rural position. During the last 20 years this aspect has been changed dramatically to the point where it is no longer safe to walk along this road. In parts it is too narrow for two vehicles to pass. Before long someone is going to get seriously injured or killed. This country lane was not meant for this volume of traffic and is no longer safe for pedestrians. These are the things that have been imposed on us to date and I hope you will agree that we have had to put up with a lot more change than any other area within Wrexham County.

**Car boot sale:** - This is without doubt one of the largest car boot sales in Europe. It has grown out of all proportions during 20 years. It is more a Sunday market than a car boot sale as there are more and more trade stalls. The owner constantly breaks all rules and anything seems to go there. This event is not policed at all. This event brings thousands of cars and visitors every Sunday and bank holiday Mondays, via the bypass and our country lane. Getting out of our property can be a challenge, and if you try and slip out, we constantly get verbal abuse and hand gesturing from the visitors to this event. Also, due to the council allowing the owner to charge for parking on the field, cars are now parked on all grass verges to dodge this payment (something the council said they would not allow to happen in local meetings). This traffic starts at 05.00 in the morning. Visitors also park in the layby at the bottom of our garden and walk up, together with locals from Lodgevale park. The noise, litter and bad language from all this causes no end of pollution. The far top field of the car boot sale was full of rubbish, I have pictures if you would like to see them. Our local councillor reported it to NRW but nothing has been done. This field is also a registered airfield.

McDonalds: - I realize that this is a business that has created local employment but it greatly adds to the traffic on our country lane. Not to mention the litter created. If its windy I am picking McDonalds wrappers up from my garden and back yard constantly. I know McDonalds do their best in trying to keep the streets clean from their litter, but it has become a serious problem now with McDonalds litter all down the lane. This business is now 24/7 and this creates unsociable behaviour in the area with local youths going up the lane at all hours of the night, shouting foul language as they proceed, and then they come back down the lane doing the same and dropping their litter everywhere. There is always a stream of youths attracted to McDonalds, and if we are sitting in our garden, the language and behaviour is awful.

Layby: - This layby is just down from the bottom of our garden. It is used by people to park their car whilst they go to the car boot sale. It is used by McDonalds customers to eat their food and leave their litter thrown everywhere. More recently it is being used by motor homes to park overnight and also by HGV vehicles to park overnight. The HGV vehicles start their engines at any time during the silent hours, thus waking us up. Our local councillor has reported this to the relevant department in Wrexham Council but nothing is done.

Country Lane: - Our country lane is constantly used by boy racers who use it as a lap around to Chirk at all times of the night. Due to police cut backs we have very little police presence in this area and this issue would be way down their priority list.

Summery.:- I hope I have explained enough to make you see how traffic and its pollution has multiplied over the last twenty years to an extent where I think the council need to make a stance and take action, and not grant planning permission for any more traffic / pollution. I think all local residents have put up with enough, more than any other local communities within the county of Wrexham. Before any more traffic is introduced to this country lane, the council need to install a footpath for pedestrians along the length of this road. The road needs to be widened in some areas to allow two-way traffic. Then proper lighting needs to be installed. The road drainage needs addressing as we constantly have drainage issues. And also a speed limit of 30MPH and traffic calming measures. This will cost money but I don't see how the council can encourage more traffic without these measures. Also I would like to point out that we live within a 4-mile radius of the UNESCO world heritage site, the Pontcysyllte Aquaduct. I would like mine and my family's rights to be taken into account also, the right to walk our local area without the dangers it presently presents, and additional dangers if even more traffic is introduced. After all, we are hardworking, law abiding citizens who pay our taxes.

Regards

I.M. Biggs