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RECEIVED
- 8 SEP 2017

Susan Lofthouse,
5 Manor Drive,
Kirby Hill,
Near Boroughbridge,
North Yorkshire,
YO51 9DY.
30th AUG 2017

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I would like to object to the proposed motorway services development in Kirby Hill, primarily because I am concerned about the catastrophic impact it would have on the environment and the rich wildlife we have here. And secondly because the project seems purely to benefit the developers and not the tax paying people of North Yorkshire. It is therefore entirely unnecessary.

Allow me to provide more information below:

1. Environment

We live in one of the closest houses to the proposed development and regular visitors to our garden include hedgehogs, pheasants and stoats. We also get the occasional protected species such as Red Kites, bats, newts and we have even had deer. So, if major building work begins nearby, these animals will be hugely distressed and potentially, their homes will be destroyed in the process. Furthermore, if the services are to be 24 hour, these animals may never return, due to all the incessant extra noise and light pollution.

Whilst I appreciate that certain efforts have been made in the plans to 'mask' the buildings with grass, that measure would be purely cosmetic and in practice these kinds of ideas serve only to placate nearby residents, but do not prevent any crucial and lasting damage to the environment.

Furthermore, if the services were allowed, there could be a huge increase in air pollution, as the many trucks will bellow diesel fumes into the atmosphere. They are currently looking at 82 truck spaces and 365 car spaces. This is therefore not insignificant in terms of both air quality and noise.

2. A Project For Developers Not The People Of North Yorkshire

Clearly this project is worth millions to the developers, but it is completely worthless to the people of North Yorkshire, as it does not benefit us at all.

I understand that this development will create jobs in their words 'recruited locally where possible', but here in North Yorkshire, unemployment is below the National average and there is already no shortage of minimum wage jobs in this area.

I can appreciate that people need fuel and other amenities, but there is a closed services less than five miles away on the A1 which clearly closed as it was unprofitable.

Also, the company responsible is an Irish company who sell their own branded food, so there would be absolutely no opportunity for local producers or suppliers and any profits would effectively be leaving the county and the country. Therefore along with their profits, they also get significant tax relief as they are based elsewhere. In this way, they are not even supporting the local economy.

Furthermore, Boroughbridge (which is less than a mile away) already has two petrol stations one of which is less than half a mile off the A1 and Wetherby services are just 12 miles away. There is also a services near Asenby on the A19 which is 5 miles away. So who is this really benefitting? It is beyond scandalous and the local media are already covering the story with follow ups.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this development will not only be pointless to the local economy, but gravely and irreversibly damaging to the environment. It will also not serve the general public any better than any of the many other alternatives in the very vicinity.

Finally on a very personal note, as someone who has lived in Kirby Hill for 30 years, I would like to preserve its nature and heritage for my 7 year old grandchild who attends the local school. The village has after all been here for over 1000 years and we have a protected ancient Church to prove it. It's one of

the oldest in the country. It is devastating and stressful to think that it could all be destroyed in moments.

I do hope that you will take my letter very seriously and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,



Susan Lofthouse

