Submission Planning Applications P/21/2358/2 and P/21/2359/2

Firstly, I support the comments and objections made in the submission by Anstey Borough Councillors Deborah Taylor and Paul Baines.

Three areas I would like to emphasise more from their submission.

Highways and Transport. P/21/2358/2 and P/21/2359/2

In my view, these proposals will have a detrimental effect for the residents of Newtown Linford, noting that the village is within the 'Other Settlements' of the Local Plan. This will see large numbers of vehicles from these developments travelling through the village from these proposed sites. It is inevitable, all the vehicles travelling north, including to and from the M1 will travel through the village. Newtown Linford is already seeing many vehicles from visitors to Bradgate Park.

I enclose a letter to a resident about traffic congestion in The Nook, the centre of Anstey village. Since this letter was written by the Director at Leicestershire County Council, we have seen hundreds of new dwellings built adding to the vehicle congestion. This letter by the Director stated: 'our view is that the situation with congestion and delays at The Nook is now reaching a level where it can be considered as being severe. This is the test that the government have set in the NPPF, stating development should only be refused on transport grounds when the impact is severe'.

I have not seen any transport assessments or works to The Nook that have come forward to overcome the current severe levels of traffic as described in the Director's letter.

Therefore, in my view, these two areas fail the test and will not be able to be mitigated by highway infrastructure measures.

Areas of Local Separation. P/21/2359/2

In my opinion, this proposal does not conform to the policy of keeping areas of local separation, especially between Anstey and Newtown Linford. This area of separation was highlighted in the Charnwood Local Plan, Core Strategy 2011 to 2028. Therefore, the application fails the test because it does not protect the character of the landscape and countryside, does not maintain the separate identities of the villages of Anstey and Newtown Linford and does not consider the impact on tranquillity so close to the SSSI, Bradgate Park.

Services. P/21/2358/2 and P/21/2359/2.

Anstey is classed as a Service Centre within the hierarchy of the Local Plan. Already Anstey has seen an increase of over 660 dwellings during the current Local Plan period. This has put an enormous strain on local services, which are also used by residents from nearby smaller villages within my Ward of Forest Bradgate and beyond.

In my opinion, the capacity to operate essential services to an acceptable level is in decline, with residents travelling further to receive the services that should be provided in the local Service Centre. Indeed, some services are no longer available within Anstey.

In conclusion, I refer decision makers when deciding these applications to the comments made by the Anstey Ward Councillors Deborah Taylor and Paul Baines for other areas of concern, especially, visual amenity, lack of car parking in the centre of Anstey, wildlife and nature and the lack of public transport.

In my view, with all the information provided, I conclude that there is enough evidence to refuse both applications.

David Snartt.

Borough Councillor.

Forest Bradgate Ward.