

From: Geoffrey Wilson
Sent: 26 April 2020 17:40
To: Planning <Planning@SouthSomerset.Gov.Uk>
Subject: manor farm templecombe planning objection

The Manor House
Combe Hill
Templecombe
Somerset
BA8 0LJ

26th April 2020

Application number: 19/03416/OUT

The Manor Farm Development

Dear Mr Kenyon,

Whilst the amended plans alleviate the potential damage to the Historic Templar site, for which I am grateful, they do nothing to allay the dangers of access on to the A357 or of potential residents negotiating the imaginary and contrived footpath from the Yew Tree to the school.

Although Highways are satisfied because it is statistically acceptable, they do not live here and have never experienced first-hand, the dangers inherent with this scheme. I can assure you that if allowed to progress there will be serious accidents to pedestrians if they are brave enough to attempt the walk. Commensurate with this is the fact that much of the proposed new footpath from the vehicular access onto the A357 is on private land – not Highways land, and is not for sale. I refer to the stretch of land from Manor Barn southwards.

Templecombe is a rural settlement and as such we have already had an excessive amount of development, which ignores government guidelines. Furthermore, there have been two previous planning applications appertaining to this site, both of which were rejected. Nothing physical has changed regarding this site and therefore supports its rejection.

Within this rural settlement there are many unsold houses from a previous development in Bowden Road, consequently the demand for housing in Templecombe is not there. In addition

to this, there is in existence permission granted for 79 houses on Slades Hill and 29 in Throop Road. These have yet to be built and then sold. With the Coronavirus pandemic situation, the economy is at a standstill and the country is in danger of falling into a severe and long lasting recession, which will result in even less demand for houses because people out of work will not have the purchasing power necessary to buy houses.

Ninety five percent of the reasoning behind the recent failing of the smaller West Street application also applies to the Manor Farm site.

Given the facts of this application, ie. dangerous access, absence of footpaths on a busy, narrow road well below modern specifications for an A road, the absence of the need for additional housing, unwanted by the residents, lack of amenities, the likely increase of traffic from this and the many other local developments in Henstridge, Wincanton and Stalbridge affecting both the safety and well- being of current residents, the amount of unsold newly built houses, the planning permission already granted for other sites but not yet started, there is no need or demand for this development.

Add this to the history of applications for this site, there can be no option but to refuse permission.

Yours sincerely,

G. Wilson.