

From : Richard Brunton, 12 East Street, Templecombe, BA8 0JX
Re Manor Farm Planning Application 19/03416/OUT

Dear Mr Kenyon

I object to the proposed development.

Please refer to my earlier submissions in both the Comments section and in Associated Documents. To avoid repetition I would just add the following :-

1. The legal advice which scuppered the objections to the West Street development was that the requirement from central government under the National Planning Policy Framework directive of 2019 meant that SSDC's need to meet the numbers on housing supply outweighed any consideration of a need, or lack of it, for additional housing in Templecombe. I cannot believe that desecration of greenfield sites in a rural settlement is within the spirit of that legislation though it appears to be within the letter of the law. I am sure the Council for the Protection of Rural England take a similar view and it is regrettable that SSDC do not make a stand on this. The financial penalties and legal costs are no doubt to blame.

2. Cllr William Wallace and his supporters are to be applauded for their heartfelt stand in objecting to the West Street development and representing a large number of the local population. In objecting to this one he may be tempted to point out that all of the reports concerning traffic density and pedestrian safety, from the Highways Agency down to the applicant's independent agent are de facto grossly inaccurate. They should be deemed incompetent and therefore inadmissible in support of the development. A fresh and truly independent assessment of traffic and pedestrian issues needs to be demanded as this is a huge safety concern even now for most people in the village.

3. I never received a response from SSDC when I asked on what date the additional triangle of land ('Manor Green') had been bolted on to the application. It was not on the maps at the Origin3 presentations in Wincanton or Templecombe. This is possibly in breach of the public consultation guidelines.

4. SSDC's decision to plough ahead with these deliberations in virtual session during the current global pandemic crisis is deplorable.

Yours sincerely

Richard Brunton

(This message was originally submitted to the Comments dialogue box on the 24th & 25th July but failed to transmit on both occasions)