



## **Minutes of Great Barton Parish Council Planning Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Members present: Councillor Maggie Dunn chaired the meeting, with Councillors David Clarke and Andy Baker.

The Clerk and no members of the public were present.

1. No apologies had been received.
2. No declarations of interest were received and there were no requests for dispensation.

Great Barton Parish Council objects the following application:

	Address	Application Number Consultation Expiry	Application Details
1	Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate East Sumner Road Hepworth Suffolk	DC/23/1154/OUT 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Outline Planning Application (means of access to be considered) for demolition of existing buildings and structures to provide new employment floorspace (Classes E(g)(iii), B2 and B8) including vehicular access with all other matters reserved

Great Barton Parish Council objects to application DC/23/1154/OUT as detailed below:

This application along with DC/22/2190/HYB Jaynic/Copart hybrid application which is awaiting a decision and numerous residential developments in neighbouring villages should not be considered on a piecemeal basis but rather with a view to the cumulative effects on the area. When taking into consideration the existing traffic flow along the A143 it should be recognised that the number and mix of vehicles will vastly increase, notably light vans and HGV's. Great Barton has already seen increased traffic volume due to vehicles 'cutting through' Fornham Road, Mill Road and East Barton Road to miss the congestion on the A14 roadworks from Woolpit to Haughley.

Great Barton is at the bottom of the A143 and the traffic funnels through the middle of the village. Recently Compiegne Way on the edge of Bury St Edmunds was closed for 5 days due to an accident, this put increased pressure on local roads that are not fit for these large commercial vehicles.

On another occasion last month there were 2 accidents within 1 hour of each other closing the A143 in Great Barton. We calculate that in the approx. 12-mile rural stretch of A143 from junction 43 on A14 to the site in Sumner Road there will be 10 roundabouts, this includes 2 planned for the new Severals development to the west of Great Barton. If both of the above applications are approved and taking into account the local residential developments the Parish Council believe that, with the current road users, commuting vehicles and then the HGV's the additional traffic will cause delays and more 'cutting through'. These cut through roads which are unsuitable for HGV traffic will become even more damaged through wear and tear. The conservatively estimated 2500 to 4500 additional vehicle movements travelling through Great Barton per day is substantial and will have a negative impact on the village and its road infrastructure. If this and other developments go ahead it will over power

Great Barton which is already under immense strain. Many of the houses on the main road are older properties that have no protection from the noise and vibration of heavy traffic. The problem is 24/7 with the majority of vehicles exceeding the speed restriction despite the installation of speed reduction measures.

Traffic mitigation measures are definitely required and the Parish Council believes that weight restrictions on Mill Road, Fornham Road and East Barton Road for their entire length is the minimum requirement although the need for a bypass to be constructed has already been identified in the West Suffolk Rural Vision 2031 (page 89 point 30.9) as detailed below.

30.9 - The allocation of a large strategic site on the north eastern edge of Bury St Edmunds in the Core Strategy (Policy CS11) makes provision for facilitating a bypass for Great Barton. The Suffolk Local Transport Plan 2011-2031 recognises that there is a long-term aspiration to provide a bypass for the village, however, there is no capital

investment available to undertake this project at present. The borough council will work with the developer of the north east Bury St Edmunds strategic (See Bury St Edmunds Vision 2031 document) to ensure that proposals for development facilitate the future provision of a bypass for Great Barton.

*Maggie Dunn*

Chair  
Great Barton Parish Council

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