

Sue Hennah

From: Carly Pile <CPile@liscombe.co.uk>
Sent: 25 March 2014 09:28
To: LDP Programme Officer
Cc: carly.pile@yahoo.co.uk
Subject: LDP Hearing Session 5 Gypsy & Traveller Sites
Attachments: view from house 2.jpg; view from house 3.jpg; view from house 4.jpg; view from house 6.jpg; view from house 7.jpg; view from house.jpg

Dear Sue,

I would be grateful if you could pass a copy of my personal statement to the inspector prior to our meeting session on April 8th.

Carly Pile – Hartridge Farm Road resident – Personal Statement

Dear Inspector,

The view from my property as the moment is of trees filled with wildlife; squirrels, several species of birds, rabbits and occasionally a family of foxes all in their natural habitat. If this proposal goes ahead my view will change to a 6ft wooden fence blocking out natural light downstairs, and upstairs will change to an overview of a very large crowded traveller site. When I purchased my property in 2012 I did so with the excitement and anticipation of waking up to my current view and being able to provide a semi rural location for my young family. (I have attached some pictures taken this morning from my property of the current view, (image 2,3,4,6,7,1)

The increase in road traffic that the proposed site will bring will have an enormous impact on my families' life. At the moment I can safely walk my children to the local school (ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd). I understand that the traveller families proposed for this site already have their children integrated at several schools across Newport, and do not have any interest in the school my children attend. What this will mean for us is that at the same time I want to walk up the narrow lane to school, several vehicles will be leaving the proposed site to take their children to the school they currently attend. This will make our usual walk to school very dangerous as there are no pavements along the route, it will also render my driveway un-usable. The driveway is located on the corner of the property and would be very difficult to enter/leave with any level of traffic along this road. I have raised this concern with the council already. The noise level will also increase dramatically we all know how noise travels through a caravan, how is this going to provide any privacy for my family or the traveller families? A 6ft fence is not going to solve this issue.

I am concerned that the proposed site will have a detrimental effect on the two local schools at Hartridge Farm Road. As a parent of two children who currently attend the Ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd School and a member of the PTA, I have had several concerns raised with me from fellow parents. Rightly or wrongly, the general perception of traveller families is very negative and parents are worried about violence spilling over from the Ringland community & traveller site to the school. Many children use the underpass to gain access to both schools and after threats to the travelling community from Ringland residents and then counter threats back, we feel we are going to be caught in the middle of the cross fire. These children are aged from 3-11 at the Welsh school so I'm sure you can understand their concerns. As a resident I am also gravely concerned by these threats from both sides as we will be potentially living in the crossfire with two young children. Several of the residents in Pwll Pen (just off HFR) are either retired or elderly in their 70's & 80's, how will they cope with the transition from semi-rural to a potential gangland atmosphere?

Property Value - this is a point that is heartbreaking; when I bought my semi-rural property in 2012 I paid for the privilege of it being in a small hamlet in a nice area. This was also an investment property for our family that was planned to provide an inheritance for our children. If this proposal goes ahead I will lose not only my way of life, but also every penny that I have spent lovingly developing this house into a beautiful home for my family, along with the inheritance I planned for my children. The property will be rendered worthless, as nobody will be willing to buy a property overlooking a traveller site at the current market value. There are 3 properties that have been up for sale that have fallen through on HFR and Pwll Pen. The properties sell really quickly, but, as soon as the property search comes back with the LDP plans they fall through. Recent comments in the South Wales Argus confirm people's opinion, with one comment "I'll chuck them a fiver for their houses on HFR as it'll be worthless" Peter Alan estate agents also confirm that selling my property would be impossible. As I said earlier most of the residents in Pwll Pen are retired and had plans of selling and downsizing, this will never happen, we will all be prisoners in our own homes. Stuck with no chance of selling and moving on. I have questioned the economic impact with Mark Hand and I'm told

there will be no effect whatsoever on the value of my property, why then when the council had a wonderful opportunity to design and build a traveller site within Glan Lyn, they chose not to? For reasons of "economic impact". A contradiction from Mark Hand. It could have been designed with residents and travellers in mind to allow for privacy, traffic, noise levels etc. More importantly anyone who wished to purchase a property on this estate would have had a choice - we have had no choice. There has been no consultation with the residents most affected by this proposal, yet the council have visited the travelling families personally on several occasions to check options for locations with them. When i have asked why this is i'm told it is "their human right" where in all this has my human right been checked? Surely it's my human right to reside in a property that is not dominated and overwhelmed by a massive traveller site? The Welsh guidelines state that a traveller site should not dominate/overwhelm an area. 11 houses to 43 pitches that is the definition of domination. There will be no integration; you cannot integrate when you are so overwhelmed.

Kind regards,
Mr & Mrs Pile

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