

TIDBURY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Charlotte Kirby
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14th September 2016

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James Carpenter
Head of Service – Development and Regulatory Management
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
Places directorate
PO Box 11652
Council House, Solihull
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Dear Mr Carpenter

Tidbury Green Farm development – Tidbury Green

This and other developments in our Parish or nearby will mean that the core Tidbury Green area will no longer remain a rural environment. The local infrastructure needs to be raised to a level way above that of a small rural village to absorb such developments. We have already put forward a number of observations to SMBC, but the more we study the situation, the more issues arise.

We have substantial concerns regarding the positioning of the proposed pedestrian crossing at Fulford Hall Road set out in the planning application PL/2013/01394/OLM and other matters as follows:

- 1) At a meeting at Bellway on 28 June 2016, their representative, Mr. Chris O'Hanlon, was asked to respond to the question as to why the emergency access to the site was so close to the crossing point. He agreed to look into this. So far, there has been no response. We therefore are looking to SMBC, who is ultimately responsible for public safety on the highways, to provide us with your assessment of this situation.
- 2) Whilst the crossing point may be useful for the very few residents living on the west side of Fulford Hall Road to walk their children to Tidbury Green Primary School, and to children coming from the new development to access the stopping point for the school bus, there are significant downsides as follows.

3) The crossing will encourage future pedestrians coming from the east side of Fulford Hall Road to believe this is a safe beginning of their journey. However they will then face the following problems:

- a) If they try to walk along the pavement south west of their position on Lowbrook Lane, they will find the pavement runs out after about 10 metres. Do you agree? Where do they go from here?
- b) To access the other side of Lowbrook Lane will require them to cross a road, with significant volumes of traffic crossing the very busy crossroads at Lowbrook Lane/ Fulford Hall Road-Tilehouse Lane. Why is this crossing point not being given a safe pedestrian crossing? What is your assessment?
- c) For a car heading north along Fulford Hall Road, the left turn into Lowbrook Lane is already difficult, even for a small car. The proposed extension of the footway at the crossroads will, in our opinion, make this turn impossible, without endangering pedestrians.
- d) There is a school bus pick-up point for children travelling to local secondary schools in the morning, which is located close to the crossroads on the right hand side of Lowbrook Lane looking north-east. The present proposals will mean that children walking up Lowbrook Lane will continue to have to negotiate an unassisted crossing of Lowbrook Lane at a time in the morning when traffic both ways is intense, and will become more so. We refer you to point b). Do you believe this is an acceptable situation?

4) We presently conclude that the proposed arrangements are likely to put more people, including unaccompanied children, in danger of death or injury than would be the case if appropriate alternative solutions were put forward.

We would really appreciate it if you could provide a response to each of these points within fifteen working days. If this is not feasible please can you provide us with a response timescale, within 5 days receipt of this letter.

Yours sincerely



Charlotte Kirby
Clerk to the Council