

Supplementary Papers - Public Comment 5

I am writing to express our objection to the proposed sale of the piece of land at the end of Park Avenue, Glapwell, 'the strip'. I've never cried over issues like this before but the impact this development could have on Park Avenue and the surrounding area has reduced me to tears!

I am still stunned that the planning for the residential development was granted, especially when the Council officer didn't agree, and feel that this strip, and the residents of Glapwell are just being sacrificed to put money in the council's pocket. I know there is a lack of funds at the council but the residents of Glapwell shouldn't have to lose a beautiful stretch of land, which has been part of this community for years and is used every day.

We have lived on Mansfield road, for over 20 years, and 'the strip' is an area we frequently visit for walks and exercise. It's a beautiful spot, natural and unspoilt. It gives you that feel-good factor and I always think how lucky we are to have this so close to us and it's a lovely escape away from the busy main road.

My main objection to the proposed 'residential development' is the increase in traffic, I can't begin to imagine how much busier Mansfield road could be or how much congestion there will be on the areas of Park Avenue, Bolsover lane and the junction with Mansfield road! It really worries me with regard to increased pollution and noise from more vehicles in the village, and I really cannot understand how the highways department didn't see this as a major problem now, let alone with more vehicles during and after the proposed developments.

I feel that the sale of 'the strip' will see the village lose

- A play area for children, especially the younger ones and a relaxation and meeting area for older residents, several of who have disabilities. Their only option for a play and relaxation area will then be in the village which will be a journey into the village, crossing Bolsover lane (which will be more congested than ever) and then the very busy, Mansfield road, not a great option is it?
- Opportunities for the village to invite visitors and raise the profile of the village whilst raising money through the very popular carnival (which attracts a few thousand visitors) and the bonfire. This strip of land also supplies parking for disabled visitors to these events so that will be lost as well. Park Avenue plays a huge part in these events and visitors are always commenting on what a lovely area it is.
- Access for walking and exercise on the land behind the strip and access to the cricket ground.
- A beautiful landmark in the village. When you read the notes from the meeting of 12 February 2020, it mentions, key issues considered in determining the application. Now I understand these matters refer to the land on which the houses are intended to be built, but surely, they should also be considered in this situation, as it's now part of the development; **Landscape and character and visual impact of the proposed development** the 'landscape' of the strip is going to disappear and so will the existence of trees that have been around for years, so there will be no character on this end of the street other than a few new trees that they may plant around the new road

and houses, the **visual impact** will be dust and rubble for months maybe years then a new road in place of years of history and beauty. **Ecological impacts, including biodiversity, trees and hedges** (I had to look up biodiversity!!... The [diversity](#) ([number](#) and [variety](#) of [species](#)) of [plant](#) and [animal life](#) within a [region](#).) What they are taking away with this proposal on Park Avenue should surely be considered here!!!]

- The rights of householders in the village and on this occasion, on Park Avenue to be able to enjoy their homes and surrounding area. It needs to be given more consideration as Park Avenue is a residential area with young children, elderly, disabled and vulnerable people and they have rights.

Overall, I feel this development and the garden centre development is way too big for this village and even though I don't want anything built, I feel that the development where the garden centre is would work better because of the better access to and from Bolsover lane; that area is not as congested as the Park Avenue/Bolsover lane/Mansfield road area, so the works vehicles for building, and vehicles from the new houses would have less-troublesome access. Also, if the 2 developments did go ahead, if they started the garden centre one first, couldn't they continue the road down the back of the cricket ground and not have to disturb the road on Park Avenue and leave the strip untouched?

Where we live on Mansfield road, the main road is a nightmare, noise and pollution day and night so it's a relief to have a back garden that's not overlooked, it gives you that bit of peace. In the minutes from the 12 Feb meeting, Duncan McGregor spoke in favour of the development and said

'The wider visual impact of the proposal on the landscape was perceived to be limited because the site was not especially prominent and the housing would be seen against the backdrop of existing residential development.'

It's not 'limited' for us, it's taking away a stretch of land that's been our area of escapism. There will be nowhere to go to get peace from the busy road (that will be much worse!) and the lives for those on Park Avenue will never be the same again.

I can't begin to imagine how draining all of this has been for the residents of Park Avenue. I thought it was quite ironic the other day when a part of This Morning was filmed at Hardwick Hall, and it showed Alison Hammond enjoying the outside area and she commented that a mental health survey from 2018 had found that the positive benefit from single exposure to nature can last up to 7 hours...I thought if only she knew what was happening just down the road!!!

I will try put a briefer email together for the other councillors who are attending the meeting, just trying to explain what an impact it will have on our village, and to try and appeal to their better nature.

Thank you for your time with this and all that you do for the community, and good luck at the meeting

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