

Sent: 18 January 2013 14:21

To: Programme Officer

Subject: Core Strategy - Additional Hearing

Dear Kath,

A short time ago we were circulated with a document, prepared it seems by a number of the Town's Councillors, which alleges that the Council have added the land to the East of Moreton Way to their proposed housing sites in South Glos. It also inferred that this change in official policy was made covertly.

I have to say that this came as a big surprise to me as there seemed to be every reason under the sun why this site to the East of Moreton was inappropriate for the Town as a whole. It seemed that this proposal was driven by the land owner, supported by the developer because there was little support from the general population.

To even suggest that both sides of our ring road is developed is just foolhardy. Apart from really unbalancing the town, such a development would be hazardous to the users, particularly those on foot.

Already the Industrial Park has made the 'living' side of Midland Way unattractive due to both density, speed and traffic noise generated by those huge articulated trucks. It is most probable that the Planners, when approving the warehousing facility had no reason to believe that its use would escalate to such huge proportions. The roadside occupants must now be finding it difficult to sell their properties and hence their assets have been devalued. (I am indeed, fortunate, as I live on the west side of Bockenem Close.)

From many aspects the favoured site in which to place additional housing is the area presently occupied by the Industrial Estate. Perhaps, in the long run it would be better for the town if an alternative site for this could be found – say, along Butt Lane at the cross roads at the intersection of the Power Station Access road with the Oldbury Village road. Maybe Horizon Nuclear could assist in such a move as they may also have to upgrade the routes from the A38 to the Power Station.

The present Industrial Site has so much to commend its re-use as a housing development – its proximity to the town centre would be one of them – and it is unlikely that there would be the wholesale objection from the population as there is against the Moreton Way Site. You would be able to impose parking and speed restrictions along the whole length of Midland Way. That would be very very popular and earn you brownie points.

Perhaps some publicity could be given to this suggestion as others may even see greater advantages than myself.

I believe that I have previously sent you an e-mail with my detailed objections to the Moreton Way Site so I haven't repeated them.

sincerely,

Jim Mason