

From: Paul Parsons [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 July 2015 22:40
To: Jeni Jackson
Subject: Pyrford Development - Woking Borough Council Public Consultation

Dear Ms Jackson

I hope that this message finds you well.

I am writing to you in your capacity as Head of Planning for Woking Borough Council, and am objecting to the proposed development on either side of Upshot Lane, as a resident of Pyrford.

To give you some context, I moved to Pyrford as an 8 year old in 1987, and am now 36 years old. I have moved away a couple of times, for university (when I would still regularly return home) and at the start of my career (London for a couple of years), but have always ended up moving back. I have lived in Pyrford for 23 out of my 36 years. I attended Pyrford Primary (in the days when it was still Pyrford Middle School), before attending Fullbrook for secondary school, and my eldest daughter now attends Pyrford Primary school in her turn (with my younger daughter starting there in September). I used to play cricket for Pyrford, and my sons have also played for their age group teams. My parents still live in Pyrford, and my father is a lay minister for the Parish. Most of my best friends also went to Pyrford Primary and Fullbrook, and most have also moved back to Pyrford. To put it mildly, there is no place on earth for which I have a greater emotional attachment.

The reason that I have always ended up back in Pyrford is that it is almost unique in my experience in that it retains the charm and sense of community of being in a village, with the convenience of good transport links via the main line up to Waterloo through Woking and West Byfleet, and reasonable proximity to Heathrow. By hugely over-developing sites in the village, all of this shall be lost. The sense of community within the village shall be threatened by a huge influx of new residents and the transport shall become nightmarish with the extra stress on roads and rail infrastructure.

I want my children to have a similar regard for Pyrford as I do, but the character of the village will be changed by this development. Currently, we regularly head out of our house in Wexfenne Gardens, down a path that runs alongside the St Martins Mews/Rowley Close development and into the woods behind. My sons and I have built dens in those woods, and we play hide and seek there and other games. Currently we emerge onto Sandy Lane and are surrounded by lovely fields. It literally feels like we are in the countryside, whilst being a 10 minute walk from our front door. It is these fields that shall be concreted over to make way for the new development.

As our local Head of Planning, I hope that I have been able to convey why this village means so much to me and why I am so concerned by this development. I look to you to help protect my village.

Kind regards

Paul Parsons

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