LINTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Ms Kathryn Wiseman, The Village Hall, Coles Lane, Linton, Cambridge, CB21 4JS.

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Chairman: Mr Paul Poulter.



Karen Pell-Coggins
Principle Planning Officer
Planning and new Communities
South Cambridgeshire Hall
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RE: S/2553/16/OL- Horseheath Road, Linton

RECEIVED SCDC 19 DEC 2016

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL

16th December 2016

Dear Karen,

Thank you for the extension of time to respond to the comments of CCC regarding s106 allocation and school places. Here is our initial response, although we are happy to elaborate further.

Thank you also for forwarding the guidance from Robert Lewis regarding the demand for school places, and the capacity for these within Linton.

We have recently had cumulative infill development, as well as outline approval for up to 55 houses at Bartlow Road (planning application s/1963/15/OL). Other development is also under consideration, as well as this application. The educational needs associated with the extra housing will exceed the number of spaces available for Linton pupils. However, Linton, being a minor Rural Centre, also takes pupils from outside Linton, within the wider catchment area.

As, according to the guidance in relation to the Annual School Capacity Survey (SCAP) return, more school places cannot be funded through s106 contributions, we ask for funding to improve and replace unsatisfactory school buildings.

Linton PC is aware that the three village schools are already at capacity, and reliant on Portakabins or other temporary buildings to accommodate the current numbers of pupils. This accommodation is now ageing and in poor condition, some with leaking roofs and decaying fabric.

Should these be lost due to their poor condition, there will be a capacity gap; there are only sufficient spaces for pupils if these rooms are included in calculations. So, we request s106 allocation from the developers to improve the quality of school buildings, in order to meet the required quantity of places. Temporary and poor quality buildings should be replaced with permanent or better quality buildings with proper facilities. Good quality classrooms would be expected in order to facilitate teaching and learning, as poor accommodation does adversely impact upon these.

Please bear in mind that LVC is a listed building, Linton Infant School is in our Special Conservation Area and cannot expand, Linton Heights School has space to expand and is currently reliant on leaking Portakabins for classroom and office space. Suitable levels of funding would be expected to prevent a capacity gap, suitable to their location and needs.

On these grounds, S106 contributions will be sought to improve the quality of our school buildings, as we appear unable to expect funding for the increased number of school places that we need.

Your consideration regarding this matter is much appreciated.

Kind Regards

Kathryn Wiseman

Parish Clerk

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On behalf of Linton Parish Council