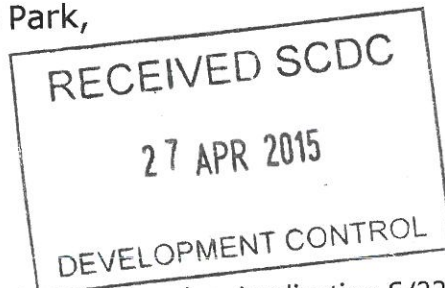


BARRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Mr A Fillmore
Planning Department
South Cambs District Council
Cambourne Business Park,
Cambourne
CB23 6EA

21st April 2015



Dear Mr. Fillmore

RE CEMEX Outline Planning Application S/2365/14/OL

Barrington Parish Council remains opposed to the above application.

Please now find attached copies of recent correspondence, which I would like to be drawn to the specific attention of the Planning Committee when considering their decision:

1. Letter from Department for Communities and Local Government
2. Letter from Andrew Pickles MP to Andrew Landsley MP
3. Correspondence from Harston GP Surgery

I wish to make the following points:

1. The letter from the Department advises that "the planning system is 'Plan-led'. Central government does not impose housing targets or tell local authorities where to build. It is for the local authority, in consultation with local people, to decide where essential development should go, and where restraint would be appropriate".
2. SCDC is the decision maker in this instance and letters 1 and 2 make it abundantly clear that the Committee would be quite correct, and indeed should give due weight to the Local Plan in coming to a view. The Local Plan identifies the CEMEX site as unsuitable for housing development.
3. The letter from Mr Pickles states: "the government wishes to see truly sustainable development, not development at any cost".

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. The correspondence from Harston GP Surgery is clear evidence that the proposed housing at the CEMEX site is locally unsustainable. In the words of Ms. O'Leary:

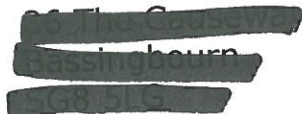
"We are in the process of applying for Section 106 monies from NHS England, and if granted we will build an extension to accommodate the extra patients generated from the 200-300 houses planned for the Hauxton site. Sadly after this we cannot expand anymore and the only option left will be a new build. NHS England has informed us that they rule this possibility out completely." Barrington does not have a GP Surgery and local people have to attend either Harston or Melbourn, which is also oversubscribed.

5. The CEMEX proposal is therefore evidentially not truly sustainable development and should be refused.

Yours sincerely



A J FLETCHER
Chairman





Department for
Communities and
Local Government

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**

Planning - Economic and Social Policy
3rd floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Tony Fletcher
Chair, Barrington Parish Council

tfletc@aol.com

Tel. 0303 44 41665
E-Mail: alan.scott@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref: 900766

9 April 2015

Dear Mr Fletcher

Thank you for your email of 12 March to the Secretary of State, forwarding correspondence from the Clerk of Melbourn Parish Council about the effect of speculatively proposed development on the character of that and other villages in South Cambridgeshire. I have been asked to reply, and I should explain that no Minister would be able to interfere in, or even comment upon, any draft Local Plan policy or, indeed, planning application. These matters are for the District Council to consider.

I understand that Hearing Sessions which form part of the Local Plan process in your area are ongoing this month. Plan-making may involve many rounds of consultation followed by rigorous examination of the draft Plan by a planning inspector. A minority of local authorities have not yet managed to bring the process to a successful conclusion. Clearly, people in areas with no up-to-date Plan in place, and where the presumption in favour of sustainable development has been triggered (albeit with safeguards), and where they are not at work on a neighbourhood plan, may see little to persuade them that localism has changed the planning system.

However, the planning system is 'Plan-led'. Central government does not impose housing targets or tell local authorities where to build. It is for the local authority, in consultation with local people, to decide where essential development should go, and where restraint would be appropriate. The sooner a Local Plan is in place, the greater the certainty and confidence residents, planners and developers can have about future development in their areas. A draft Plan will be found sound at examination if it is properly prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy in the National Planning Policy Framework.

The present Government set out its objectives for the planning system in the Framework (available on the Gov.uk website). The Framework maintains strong protection for Green Belt and other designated rural areas, and requires local authorities to recognise the character and beauty of the countryside, to protect the built heritage, to take into account all the benefits of the best and most versatile farmland, and to encourage re-use of brownfield sites if not of high environmental value.

At the same time, this country is still not building enough new homes. The Framework asks each local authority to compile and publish its objective assessment of local housing needs, and to plan to meet those needs in full, so far as is consistent with the policies in the Framework as a whole. Additional guidance (October 2014) underlines the importance of the Green Belt protections set out in the Framework, and reminds local authorities that, in planning to meet local housing and other development needs, they must have due regard to national policies indicating that development should be restricted.

Local authorities often have to balance apparently conflicting policies and priorities when deciding a planning issue. All relevant facts and circumstances have to be weighed carefully. It therefore continues to be important that people make use of every consultation opportunity (whether in response to a planning application or as part of the Plan-making process) to convey to the local authority their hopes and concerns for the future of planning in their area.

Yours sincerely,

ALAN C SCOTT

Planning policy adviser



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

The Rt Hon Andrew Lansley CBE MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP
*Secretary of State for Communities and Local
Government*

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Tel: 0303 444 3450
Fax: 020 7035 0018
E-Mail: Eric.Pickles@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref: 411409

3 1 OCT 2014

Dear Andrew

Thank you for your e-mail of 17 October about planning in South Cambridgeshire District. I hope you will appreciate that I can only comment on the general issues your correspondence raises given my role in the planning system and the fact that South Cambridgeshire's Local Plan 2011-31 is currently at examination.

I appreciate that plan-making involves difficult decisions about enabling sustainable development, conserving our environment and providing appropriate infrastructure. I also know you understand the need for new homes to meet growing demand. Unlike the previous administration, our national planning policy does not set targets for development but rightly asks that councils plan to meet objectively assessed development needs with their neighbours, and to have a robust five-year supply of housing.

However, the five-year land supply is one of many policies, and it is not the case that all development should be permitted under the presumption if there is no five-year supply in place. It is important to note that our policy also makes clear that local planning authorities should only plan to meet development needs as far as is consistent with national policy as a whole (including policies restraining development such as the Green Belt). This was recently reiterated in new guidance published on 6 October. It is therefore for the decision-taker in each case to give weight to different considerations when making a decision. Nationally two-thirds of appeals are determined in line with the Council's decision. We want to see truly sustainable development, not development at any cost.

I welcome the fact that South Cambridgeshire District Council are taking steps to meet these challenges and that a Plan is currently at examination. In the meantime when determining applications, our policy makes clear that decision makers can give weight to policies in emerging plans. The weight afforded depends upon the stage the plan has reached, the significance of unresolved objections to policies and the degree of consistency of policies to the National Planning Policy Framework.

Yours
over

THE RT HON ERIC PICKLES MP

-----Original Message-----

From: O'Leary Geraldine (NHS CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CCG)

To: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thu, 2 Apr 2015 10:23

Subject: RE: Possible development in Barrington--220dwellings

Dear Mr Fletcher

My apologies for not replying sooner but last Friday we had a new computer system installed and are very slowly finding our way around and catching up.

We are in the process of applying for Section 106 monies from NHS England, and if granted we will build an extension to accommodate the extra patients generated from the 200-300 houses planned for the Hauxton site.

Sadly after this we cannot expand anymore and the only option left will be a new build. NHS England has informed us that they rule this possibility out completely.

Kind regards

Gerry O'Leary
Harston
Surgery

-----Original Message-----

From: Harston Admin (NHS
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CCG)

Sent: 23 March 2015 10:51

To: O'Leary

Geraldine (NHS CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH CCG)

Subject: FW: Possible
development in

Barrington--220dwellings

I am informed by Andrew Fillmore at SCDC that Harston Surgery is able to accept the additional patient load.

Please could you confirm this and give me your proposals to achieve this.

Regards, Tony Fletcher
Chair Barrington Parish Council.

Copy: Dr
Allen