APPENDIX/ re: 5/1733/08/F (2 pages)
- LITTLE SHELFORD

Letter re. I Church Street

The Planning Inspectorate, Room 3/15 Eagle Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN.

Dear Sirs.

Application Reference S/1209/05/F Planning Inspectorate Appeal Ref. APP/W0530/A/06/2013181/WF. Appellants Mr and Mrs Sharpe.

The Parish Council at its meeting of the 31st May have instructed me to write to you in support of the decision of the local Planning Authority to reject the Planning Application for the erection of dwelling and reorganisation of the Restaurant Car Park at 1 Church Street, Little Shelford.

The current Restaurant is situated on the corner of Church Street and High Street/Hauxton Road on a junction with Newton Road, which takes a considerable amount of traffic throughout the day. These are roads, which not only feed traffic to and from South Cambridgeshire villages to Cambridge but also feeds onto Junction 11 of the M11. In addition, Church Street, which contains the Church, the Village Hall and a busy take-away restaurant, has been a major problem with cars parked along its totality.

The combined dangers of parking and congestion along Church Street and the dangers of the Church Street/Hauxton Road/High Street junction have been a major concern of this Council for a number of years. The fears of our parishioners have resulted in numerous meetings with the police and County Highway officials. Given the physical characteristics of Church Street very little can be done to alleviate the situation.

At the moment the Restaurant and its Car Park acts as a workable self contained entity. However, should the proposed development proceed then it is inevitable that there will be an overspill of cars into an already overcrowded location. Also the idea of an entrance/exit onto Church Street would exacerbate an already extremely hazardous situation.

To support this let me quote from a recent letter by a resident of Church Street to the South Cambridgeshire District Council.

"Last week I witnessed yet another car driving along the pavement on Church Street, Little Shelford, oblivious to the small boy who had just stepped out in front of his house to walk to school. It was a miracle he was not hit.

We are all aware Church Street is a rat run for cars travelling into and out of Cambridge at peak times. One traffic-calming hump by the church at the opposite end of the street has done little to alleviate the problems, given the speed at which cars turn into Church Street from the High Street.

-I would strongly recommend the following measures:
 - 1. Raising the pavement on both sides at our end of the street.
 - 2. Narrowing the entrance to Church Street to ensure cars have to slow down as they come into Church Street."

The 'end of the street' referred to is outside of 1 Church Street.

In summation any decision to over-ride that of the local Authority would fly in the face of all local knowledge and experience and cause grave concern to local residents. We as a Parish Council would strongly recommend that the original decision be upheld.

Yours faithfully,

Gillian Taylor Parish Clerk