

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN MARKET LAVINGTON

ADVANTAGES OF THE MALTHOUSE FARM SITE - SHLAA NO 3500

LOCATION

Roughly five and a half acres lying between Drove Lane and Oak Lane on the eastern boundary of the parish of Market Lavington, as marked on the map attached.

CONVENIENCE

It is within easy walking distance of St. Barnabas Primary School

It is within easy walking distance of Market Lavington Surgery

It is close to the existing utility service lines running along the main road

Access from the site would lead directly on to a main public road without width restriction or having to go via a feeder road.

VISIBILITY

The site is well screened from existing residents as it is already surrounded on three sides by trees or hedges. It would not be visible to pedestrians or other traffic passing along the main road because the proposed new houses would be well set back and hidden by the high bank that runs alongside the road.

Similarly, it would be screened by existing trees from traffic in Drove Lane and Oak Lane.

The development would only really be visible to a few houses in the Fiddington Estate across the main road.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Access to the site would be by means of a new road following the line of the present footpath coming up from Drove Lane. The present awkward access from Oak Lane would be closed at the existing gate into my field and become available only to key-holding pedestrians.

This would give users of the present footpath to Heywood's Place a much more secure and comfortable walk than exists at present as the new road would have proper drainage, and be usable in all weathers.

The contractor building that bit of new access road would have to bring road making machinery on to site. The Highways Authority could reasonably ask him to use that equipment to widen the strip of road between Drove Lane and the access road into the Fiddington Close Estate. The land is already available and the amount of earth to be moved very small. Every resident in both Market Lavington and Easterton knows the need for widening the road at that point.

The Authority could also use the opportunity to make changes to the junction between the main road and Drove Lane by inserting a mini roundabout. That would make it safer for the cars coming to and from St Barnabas School and from the other houses already up there.

NUMBER OF HOUSES

This is a matter of professional opinion which at this moment I have not obtained. The area of land concerned is roughly five and a half acres. The number of houses would be appropriate to that acreage.

Pop-in Event Monday 14th March

at The Old School Market Lavington

Though I explained it to many people there, I had few queries; and several people said they thought it a good plan.

There probably are objections from people with houses on Oak Lane but they never approached me at the meeting; and those that did were from curiosity more than either agreement or hostility.

Quentin Goggs

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