

LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

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21st March 2024

Re: SE/22/02495/OUT: Land South of Greenview Avenue, Leigh

Leigh Parish Council reiterates its strong objection to this application. In response to the applicant's submission *TN05: Response to KCC Highways Comments – CTMP* dated 25th July 2023 but filed on the SDC planning website on 29th February 2024, Leigh Parish Council comments as follows:

1. The CTMP study dated 25th July 2023 offers no new suggestions or material proposals to address the problems identified by KCC Highways, rather restating its previous position without addressing any fundamental concerns. Given the importance of the matter and the scale of the problem Leigh Parish Council has had a Technical Note prepared by Charles & Associates in response to this submission, which is attached.
2. While the Technical Note is self-explanatory and draws conclusions that the CTMP and Response are lacking in detail and evidence, it further concludes, on the basis of evidence provided, that The Green, The Green Lane and Greenview Avenue do not have the capacity either physically or in terms of traffic flow to handle the proposed movements. There are significant highway/pedestrian safety issues.
3. The applicant attempts to mitigate KCC's concerns on vehicle movements by proposing to use smaller vehicles, but this will only increase the number of vehicle movements which will have a greater impact on safety, parking and congestion in the village and on the roads mentioned above.
4. The swept path analysis shows very clearly that any parked car on the major portion of any of the routes will block traffic and that the only way to mitigate is by introducing parking restrictions on a much wider basis than has been suggested in the CTMP. This would need to include the B2027 High Street which was not identified in the CTMP and given its nature brings a new dimension to the traffic impact. The High Street/B2027 is an extremely busy and important through route for the entire area.
5. It is unacceptable that any widespread parking restrictions be implemented. Apart from the considerable impact this would cause and congestion in other parts of the village, the Parish Council is aware of at least three houses fronting the Green with registered disabled occupants who park their cars in front of their houses and who would not be able to park any distance away. Further, there are carers who also need to park in close proximity to their clients.
6. None of the new proposals address pedestrian safety and the swept path analysis just confirms that the physical dimensions of the roads and corners are very tight. While wheel tracks may be on the highway it seems to be accepted that bodywork will sweep and overhang pavements and verges, where they exist, which is a real and we believe insurmountable safety concern particularly given the location of the school and the other well documented pedestrian issues in the area.
7. The suggestion (2.15) that the Powder Mill Lane/The Green route be used by an increased volume of "smaller" lorries is clearly not acceptable given both the turning constraints as well as the limited headroom and proximity to the Ancient Oak.

The swept path analysis confirms a 7 ton truck can just access this route, assuming no parked cars but given that one of the registered disabled residents lives at 1 The Bungalows on this very corner of The Green, it is not an assumption that can be made.

8. Additional trees have been planted all along Greenview Avenue by KCC as a feature of the road being classified as an Avenue. These trees would have to be removed if the applicant was to introduce the "passing bays". We think this is unconscionable.
9. In general Leigh Parish Council is concerned with the cavalier approach taken by the applicant and their consultants as to the impact of their CTMP (2.11), which states "the temporary suspension of car parking on a small portion of The Green will need to be agreed with KCC Highway Streetworks but technically this is feasible and would not significantly impact on local residents whilst the spaces are suspended during the construction period. It is proposed that the spaces are only suspended during working hours, so it is likely that the local residents who park on the section of The Green will be elsewhere (e.g. the work place) or can easily park on local roads where space may be available (e.g. Green View Avenue)." This will not be the case and residents and visitors alike will be hugely impacted. There is very limited parking provision on these roads and the village as a whole.

Louise Kleinschmidt
Clerk, Leigh Parish Council
21.03.24