

From: Jackie Whiteley [<mailto:jackiewhiteley@strulch.co.uk>]
Sent: 02 March 2015 10:40
To: Tony Blackburn
Subject: RE: Bradford Core Strategy Examination Draft Programme

Thank you Tony.

The main points I wish to make relate to infrastructure. In relation building housing there is a presumption of sustainability. However, at what point, if at all, is a project unsustainable when infrastructure is clearly lacking and there is no concrete plan or indeed funds immediately available to rectify the situation?

In Wharfedale ward we have the A65 which is very congested at peak times, encouraging people to use the Wharfedale train line to travel to Bradford and Leeds in particular is a problem at peak times as the trains are full with standing room only. Our two station car parks are always full early in the morning which means that nearby roads are congested all day with station parking being a nuisance to local residents sometimes for a week or more at a time when people leave their cars to travel on business etc. It is very difficult for off peak travellers to find parking spots. There are no obvious land to build additional parking spaces, although Combined authority have it on their agenda?

Generally parking is an issue in both villages away from the stations particularly where people visit schools, local shops, nursery schools or recreation grounds.

Schools at primary level are full and the secondary schools in Ilkley, Gusieley and Otley are also full or very near full capacity. Government funding for schools is currently only available for dilapidated builds not to provide more spaces. Bradford Council say that children can attend other schools in the district but this would involve great distances because of where Wharfedale is and all schools in Bradford are also in a similar situation.

Waiting times to see a doctor can be up to two weeks depending on the time of year.

Therefore my question is should we be building more houses (to the extent intended) in an area which is popular with buyers and hence attractive to developers when 106/ community infrastructure levies will not adequately provide the necessary infrastructure needed to make the everyday lives of the current and future populations of Menston and Burley in Wharfedale enjoyable. It is a chicken and egg situation and funding is the key issue. We live in difficult economic times and contributions from developers, although welcome, will not adequately cover the cost of providing the necessary infrastructure and Bradford Council or national government will not provide the shortfall.

I think that covers the additional points I would like to make.

Kind regards#

Jackie