

Sent: 23 February 2013 16:09
To: Bradley Gammond
Subject: Former Lea Castle Hospital Site Feedback

Dear Mr Gammond,

I recently attended a public meeting at Cookley Village Hall where there was a discussion regarding the proposal to allow residential properties to be included as part of the mixed usage proposal for the site.

Firstly I'd like to thank you and the local council for keeping the residents of Cookley village and, in particular those who live in The Crescent, up to date as to the progress as well as taking our concerns on board. The meeting was very civilised with everyone agreeing to the inclusion of C3 dwelling houses into any planning. Our main concerns are that this should not be allowed to drag out any longer than absolutely necessary as the site is already becoming a blot on the landscape after falling into disrepair over a number of years.

I live at number one and have done so since May of 1992 and I've seen a steady decline in the sites condition over the last 20 years or so. I, like many others, want to see this beautiful site redeveloped as soon as possible before it gets much worse. I believe the land is primed and ready to have some major development done to it that would only benefit the surrounding area.

My personal views are that we should have a sports centre with gym plus only a few important amenities. I would especially approve of a garage where local residents could have their vehicles serviced and MOT'd. This is in main due to the fact that I don't believe there is anywhere within Cookley or Caunsall where this service is available, meaning that car owners have to make their way into Kidderminster only to find that they are somewhat stranded without the means to get home whilst their vehicle is getting repaired etc.

I feel that the majority of local residents would approve of any redevelopment proposed (within reason) but with the need to keep the surrounding woodland intact. This is home to a varied range of animal and plant wildlife, although it does need to be tamed in some way. For example, the brambles have managed to gain a foothold in many places. The trees are not only attractive but would also prove a key selling point for any dwellings as they create a natural boundary to both the A451 and A449 preventing the noise of traffic from disturbing anyone.

The other main area of concern is with regards to access to the site. At present The Crescent and Park Gate Road are the only routes into the the site and neither is designed to cope with large amounts of traffic, and they're certainly not purpose built to handle the large machinery that would be needed once development starts. I feel the only option would be to widen Park Gate Road but this would be a discussion for another time perhaps.

This about wraps up my views at present but, should I consider anything else in the meantime I will let you know. I very much hope that this civilised co-operation between residents and local government continues and that a resolution is found soon.

Kind Regards

J R Buss