

Planning Referrals Committee

Dear Councillor

I hope you may consider the following points:

1. A genuine Hazard and Worry

The Post Mill Lane development would depend on entering and exiting New St, one of the original horse and cart roads in Fressingfield. With almost no pavement, some houses or walls abutting the narrow road, parking blockages, blind corners and poor sight lines, turnings close together and no passing areas, the safety of New St is a genuine hazard and worry. Children and elderly pedestrians are particularly at risk. People have nearly been killed walking to the shop. There are many such incidents, and also accidents.

New St is a key route for villagers and through traffic alike. On any given day it is very frequently used by village households, commuters, enormous and smaller lorries, bulky farm vehicles, trade utility and delivery vans, cyclists and pedestrians, pensioner buggies and prams.

A major housing development in Post Mill Lane now, with the resulting added pressures on New St, would be seen as neglecting public safety, and reckless.

2. A Connecting Road would Exacerbate Dangers

The idea of a connecting road to avoid New St is not part of the Post Mill Lane application, yet has been suggested in the Highways report. In any case with major housing developments at either end a connecting road would greatly exacerbate not solve village road safety problems. The John Sheppard end is too confined with blind bends. The Post Mill/New St end is also highly problematic, and Post Mill road construction too poor for extra traffic. With dozens of new houses, parking trouble, and planned construction sites, New St would be even more dangerously overloaded.

Both the shop and GP surgery are on New St (and rely on parking there), and it is the well used back route to and from Diss and the A143. A Post Mill development would further undermine safety for pedestrians in New St. A new footpath along the Red House Farm site which was previously suggested by Highways cannot be implemented in practice, thus increasing the risks.

3. A Big Contradiction between Highways Reports

In recent Highways reports there have been strong concerns and objections to major housing development based on New St safety, the NPPF, virtually no public transport, and other material considerations. These Highways reports very significantly contradict the Highways report for Post Mill Lane. Yet New St is just the same, except busier.

The application should be refused as any potential benefit would be far outweighed by the very bad effects on road safety in New St., Post Mill Lane and adjoining areas. It is not sustainable.

With many thanks for your attention to my letter.

Yours

Sharon Lytton  
Post Mill Lane

