From: Steve Lawrence
Sent: 17 August 2021 14:41
To: localplans@charnwood.gov.uk
Subject: Charnwood Local Plan - proposed developments at sites HA67 and HA68

[redacted]

Local Plans
Charnwood Borough Council
Southfield Road
Loughborough LE11 2TX

17 August 2021

Dear Charnwood Borough Council,

Re: Charnwood Local Plan - proposed developments at sites HA67 and HA68

I am a Charnwood Council Tax Payer at the above address and write formally to record my strong opposition to the construction of up to 90 dwellings on the plots known as HA67 and HA68 in the village of Thrussington, as proposed in the Charnwood Borough Council Draft Local Plan.

While it is not unreasonable to expect historic villages in rural England to occasionally host the development of new dwellings, commensurate with the villages' setting, size, local amenities and infrastructure, the new proposals for Thrussington are seriously flawed in a number of respects and the concerns rightfully expressed by local residents cannot be dismissed merely as 'not in my backyard' opposition.

The construction of 90 new homes in Thrussington would equate to an almost 40 percent increase in the number of properties in the village, thereby destroying the character of a rural settlement forged over many generations. While new home construction in the village HAS taken place in fairly recent years, this has been sympathetic to the character of the village, and cognizant of the impact it has on a fragile local infrastructure. The proposals for HA67 and HA68 would place an untenable burden on traffic flows, water and sewage drainage, car parking and the road safety of local residents - including those children attending the Thrussington Primary School which sits almost adjacent to plot HA67. Moreover, the proposed developments ride roughshod over the Village Neighborhood Plan to which many village residents contributed in good faith and which was endorsed by Charnwood Borough Council only three years ago. No reference to housing development on such a scale was made in the Village Neighborhood Plan and the emergence now of such proposals in the Borough Council's Draft Local Plan raises serious questions.

Added to the list of credible reasons why the proposals for HA67 and HA68 should be rejected and removed from the Charnwood Borough Council Local Plan are concerns over the impact of such a sizable construction on the movement and proliferation of wildlife and the detrimental effect it will have on Thrussington sewage and drainage systems. Already parts of the village suffer from seasonal flooding and there have been several residents' reports of raw sewage rising to the surface and entering fresh water courses when the system becomes overloaded. The addition of yet more new homes - particularly in the quantity now proposed - in a village which has already seen more than its 'fair share' of new homes will clearly pile additional pressure on this infrastructure.

The recent cancellation of a bus service linking Thrussington with both Leicester and Melton Mowbray will force the occupants of any new housing development to rely exclusively on private transport and this could add up to 200 vehicles to a small village whose centre already resembles a car park. The village is served by five roads linking it to the A46 dual carriageway to the west, and the A607 to the east. These roads converge in the centre of the village and the volume and speed of traffic through the village already poses a traffic hazard. A detailed, independent, traffic

study (to date not undertaken) might, in all probability, add empirical evidence to support the concerns Thrussington residents already have over local road safety.

In submitting the foregoing, I again appeal to Charnwood Borough Council to reject the proposals relating to areas HA67 and HA68. I would also appreciate confirmation that this letter will be carried forward into any Public Inquiry into the proposals, and I also request that my name be added to the list of interested parties wishing to be informed of any such inquiry such that they might make representation in person.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen R Lawrence