

EAL 3 res resp 12,



PLANNING
06 JUN 2017
IC 1111 ATTN: STIC 1117
Phil Sprall

3rd June 2017

Dear Sirs,

Potential Employment Allocation: Higher College Farm
(Site option 3)

I am writing to express deep concern over the misguided and devious attempt to develop prime farmland in Hothersall Parish for light industrial purposes.

Firstly, there seems very little evidence, apart from the personal opinion of one counsellor, that the western extremity of the Ribble Valley (Longridge) has a need for new employment sites. It is a very 20th Century idea that people have to live next to their place of work, the old factory/mine concept. Nowadays, the workforce will travel. In addition, a considerable proportion of residents work from home.

Secondly, when this site was first proposed, by Longridge Town Council, there was little consultation and none with the relevant Parish Council (Hothersall). Indeed, one might question what the same local counsellor was trying to do when he avoided notifying the council he represents and declines to discuss with his electors up to present.

Thirdly, the development of this site would have a significant and seriously detrimental effect on Longridge itself, destroying the current eastern approach to the town, using long-standing farmland, creating considerable traffic issues right through the town and impinging on recently approved housing developments.

Fourthly, this site has very poor public access (despite claims to the opposite) and opens onto a rural road which LCC already accept is relatively dangerous.

In my opinion this whole process has been badly handled, perhaps purposefully, and the Planning Committee should be asked to look at the whole proposal again, with proper consultation of affected residents.

Yours sincerely

