

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 June 2017 16:10
To: publicationreg19
Subject: RV-HED DPD-GT-06.06.2017

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Chief Planning Officer
Forward Planning Dept
RVBC Council Offices
Clitheroe
BB7 2RA
June 2017

Tuesday 6th

RVBC Forward Planning Re:- Site 10 Employment land at Higher College Farm, Hothersall. (Mark Hurst) EAL3 Regulation 19 . 'HED DPD PUBLICATION CONSULTATION'

Dear Sir,

Planned development on land close to protected Biological Heritage Reservoirs and designated Biological Heritage Ancient Woodlands in Hothersall, Lancashire.

As a regular visitor to the North of England I regularly follow Ribble Valley local news. I was shocked to read an article in Longridge News during my most recent visit over the Bank Holiday regarding an Industrial and Warehouse site in Hothersall. Although I now live in London (I have lived in England for five years, although I was born and brought up in Germany) I have visited Longridge and the Ribble Valley many times. The Forest of Bowland and surrounding areas are amongst some of my favourite unspoilt areas of England for walking and relaxing. I have a particular interest in the study of Ancient Woodland trees and species of flora and fauna.

I understand the proposed site above is for an Industrial Development on open fields near one of the protected reservoir sites for which the Longridge area is famed. The actual development land is close to a number of 'Local Heritage Assets' and no less than five 'Biological (Ancient Woodland) Heritage Sites' in the parish of Hothersall, protected by law according to documents I have studied. Building on this land would ruin the Ecology of surrounding countryside and put sensitive areas at risk. The public footpath leading to the Ancient Woodland known as College Wood runs alongside the proposed boundary of the proposed site and is one of my most favourite 'Walks around Longridge', as recommended by Ribble Valley Tourist Centre.

I find it particularly disturbing that Industries are even allowed in areas such as this. Surely there are laws to protect the open countryside from Industrial development. The following are copied from a document called the 'Longridge Neighbourhood Development Plan' which appears to be a document written to protect the countryside for future generations:

"careful consideration by planners to stipulate any development to be sensitive to the environment, encourage biodiversity and take steps to enhance the heritage and overall rural aspect is paramount to any planning decision".

"change should not destroy the existing character and natural Heritage Assets that make the area so special""predominantly green appearance of the area to be maintained...protection of the rural quality of the open countryside is essential"

I can't possibly begin to imagine how a proposal of this type could do anything other than damage the environment, discourage biodiversity and leave open countryside decimated! Sir I would like to recommend the planning application be refused on the above grounds.