From: Sent:29 August 2017

To: LDF

Subject: PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT OPTION

To whom it may concern In response to the preferred development option

I understand that the council needs to have an improvement plan.

But has anyone considered a referendum to see if the residents of Warrington would want "CITY STATUS" I am aware the town has to make progress and keep up-to-date. The idea that Warrington has to be a city is abhorrent to me and most people I come into contact with, if we wanted to live in a city we would live in Liverpool/Manchester. Also people that live in cities and large towns like to visit the countryside! So aren't we better having a town with a bit of everything!

I also write to you in the hope that you reconsider the proposal of putting a dual carriageway at the end of our gardens on the old railway embankment as well as the other areas leading up to this.

I realise that if the PDO was to go ahead the infrastructure has to change but to go right through the middle of residential housing seems a bit bullish!

Especially where the people most affected have not even been considered/informed until the last minute (and even then not by WBC. but by concerned volunteers!)

If someone wanted to add an extension or make improvements to their property a notice is put in local paper or letters to neighbours to inform them etc.

But for something as big as this and to not know anything about it till the last minute seems like one rule for us and another rule for you. And I thought we lived in a democracy. It almost seems fraudulent because it's been so sneakily done.

Also to get rid of the transpennine trail seems to be getting rid of our green spaces and wildlife. I thought green spaces were protected. (But apparently only when it suits!)

Environmental issues include:

Damage to Wildlife. Owls/squirrels/foxes/hedgehogs/herons/bats/dragonflies/wild birds including birds of prey all live on this embankment

Noise pollution

Air pollution

Visual pollution

Safety issues such as collisions (DO WE HAVE TO FEAR AN ARTICULATED LORRY FALLING ONTO US AND OUR PROPERTIES!!)

The old railway embankment isn't even wide enough for a dual carriageway!

Also as a resident I am concerned about a reduction in the value of property and compulsory purchase orders etc.

But furthermore this seems to be a done deal with ridiculously short notice, with nobody knowing anything about it, almost as if someone in the council meetings has said 'if we don't tell them it'll be too late for them to do anything about it!'

I thought it was a hoax at first, after all any body wishing to put a extension on their house has to give notice in the local paper/letters to neighbours etc. yet this seems to be going through without anybody knowing about it.

Most of all the people that live where the disruption is, have been totally disregarded, it's all been so sneakily done, we seem to be being bullied into it!

On a personal level we moved to 17 years ago loving the fact it was quiet not overlooked and our child had room to play outside on the street and in the garden safely. And we could also enjoy the wildlife, peace and quiet in the garden. Only for bureaucrats the pull the rug from under us! Changing the rules to suit their needs.

I realize WBC have to have a plan for growth and would get more funding if we built more houses and employment facilities etc, but are those houses going to reflect the peoples salaries working in those industries, for instance a warehouse worker isn't going to be able to afford a £500.000 house, and on the other side someone who owns a £500.000 house isn't going to be working in a warehouse, so will commute to out of the area therefore putting pressure on the roads!

Also if improving the Barleycastle estate by bringing more employment to the area the town needs better infrastructure have you not considered an affordable park and ride system, large carparks on the outskirts of town with shuttle buses/trams transporting workers or improving the public transport system, where as it stands now, you need a car if you live in this part of town the bus fares are astronomical with a poor service, to add insult to injury. For a start a tracking system on buses so you can check the location of the bus would be relatively easy to do and would mean you're not waiting on a wing and a prayer hoping you've not missed it! (Little wonder the most people that use the buses are pensioners)

Why this part of town? why not the more industrial parts. Have you not considered the Fiddler's ferry site when that gets decommissioned, or regeneration of old housing stock, that would not encroach on any greenbelt land at all. If we keep getting rid of farm land how are we going to feed ourselves in the future.

I know we need to look forward and make changes for the future but we need to keep some things the same.

Look what they did on Battersea power station land. That would be my PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT OPTION!!!

Yours