

12, Grovenor Meadows

Rawdon

PD100576

Leeds

LS19 6SD.

DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT			
To	Action	Info	File
- 9 NOV 2015			

Leeds City Council Housing Strategy.

Leeds City Council aim is to continue with massive development. The plans from a harbour led council is to build 70,000 houses city wide by 2028 yet the projected population growth is 46,000 in this period. The city council ignores this figure.

In this plan Rixborough has to find sites for 2,300 plus new houses. The plan is to build the large majority of these on Green Belt land. This is not consistent with national policy.

The once villages of Rawdon, Horsforth, Gildesay, Yeadon and Menston would be joined together continuing city sprawl without consideration of the environment, pollution or the quality of life for the residents.

There is no new employment planned locally. In the past few years a company of reasonable size has moved into the area. Workers park cars blocking residential streets and also on the approach to the JCT roundabout on the main trunk road of the A65. Blocking a lane to turn left. This reduces the main road to one lane causing further congestion. The company asks for residents to let employees park on the owners house drive for a fee which is a significant indication of the severe congestion of the streets and roads of Rawdon.

There is no new road network planned which will further congest the A65, which is already one of the busiest arterial roads in Leeds. The Leeds Bradford Airport continues to expand. The main trunk road from Bradford and the towns in the west, such as Dewsbury, Halifax, Thuddersfield etc need to cross the A65 for airport access. The Leeds Ring Road crosses the A65 at Horsforth which causes further congestion for the area and delays.

There is no new employment planned local or otherwise meaning

any new resident will have to travel to work usually of course by car.

There is no provision for further school places, if the primary school is extended in Rawdon the only place for it is on Micklefield Park land. This school was built adjacent to the A65, despite warnings from residents of the dangers of congestion and traffic problems. Parents drop off and collect children twice daily traffic on the A65 grinds to a halt. When the small school car park is full parents park their vehicles on the A65.

It can be seen from the Leeds City Council housing plan that all the area marked HG2-10, HG2-9, HG2-11, HG2-11, HG2-13, HG2-14, HG2-15, HG2-12 all will impinge and create further traffic for the A65 and the airport arterial road. These sites also swallow up Green Belt land. To use Green Belt sites before brown field is not justified. This proposal to use Strategic Green infrastructure is also against the Leeds Core Strategy.

We already have too few doctors and dentists. One is no longer able to obtain same day appointments at the surgery, waits are inevitable. Car parking is almost impossible, this is all taken up by surgery staff, again congestion parking on the main road for visitors to the surgery. We go to Bradford to the dentist.

In the past few years the local post office has closed, the bank, the council in an effort to save money withdrawn from Rawdon library which is now a small community centre run by volunteers. All these factors take away from local travel i.e. walking and entail car journeys.

People need Green Belt land for physical and mental well being. Somewhere green to look at, walk in and breath fresh air. More houses mean more traffic, more pollution, more health problems, less quality of life.

The policy should be build on brown field sites and update old housing, or if impossible demolish and new more modern built

in its place.

needs used to pride itself on being a green city. The route for visitors from the airport scenic and green creating a good and advantageous disposition for the city.

In the long run it is not wise to go down what appears to be a cost cutting exercise, the route that the council is planning. It will destroy what exists and is attractive and positive about the city.

DAVID DICKENS.