

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Iain Smith  
Head of Planning & Environmental Services  
Corby Borough Council  
Deene House  
New Post Office Square  
Corby  
NORTHANTS, NN17 1GD

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Mr Smith,

**RE: PLANNING APPLICATION 20/00458/COU**

I have been contacted by a significant number of my constituents in respect of the above planning application for a residential caravan site at Ashley Road in Middleton. As such, I am writing to set out their concerns relating to this proposal and associate myself fully with the very strong level of local objection that has been expressed, including by Middleton Parish Council who I understand have formally objected.

Residents have raised concern that the proposed site is situated on the edge of the Welland Valley flood plain and that there are real flooding concerns in this area, which would make it highly unsuitable for residential development. I understand that two streams run either side of the site that feed in to the Welland and it is simply the wrong location. Further to this, this site is located in the stunning rural landscape of Middleton and its surrounding area, and this planning application makes no effort to maintain the biodiversity of the area. I believe this site would therefore have a detrimental environmental impact, not just on the landscape itself, but on the future biodiversity of the area too.

Moreover, I understand that the entrance to the site would be close to a sharp bend and there are concerns about the visibility of vehicles leaving and entering the site and the subsequent increased likelihood of road traffic collisions in the area. In addition, the lack of pedestrian access to the village from this site raises further highway concerns. I understand that currently the only access to the village from this site is down an unlit narrow road with no footpath or verge and there are no speed restrictions. Undeniably this is unacceptable.



Finally, residents have highlighted with me that, if accepted, this proposal would double the number of these types of sites outside of the village and I also understand that another appeal for a similar site is currently ongoing which would further exacerbate the challenges on the village's amenities. Indeed, the number of these sites around this village is highly disproportionate to the size of Middleton and I would strongly urge you to consider this when evaluating the suitability of this location.

On these grounds, I wish to state that I fully associate myself with the objections raised by local residents and by Middleton Parish Council and urge that their wishes are respected, and this application be subsequently refused.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Pursglove".

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**