DC/19/02299 | Full Planning Application - Erection of 46 dwellings, sport pitches and a sports community building with associated access improvements, parking, play space, infiltration basin and landscaping. | Land South Of The Street Stonham Aspal Suffolk IP14 6AN

The members of Stonham Aspal Parish Council agreed to object to the planning application for 46 dwellings, sports pitches and sports community building on land south of The Street, Stonham Aspal.

Although members felt that the planning application had been extremely well thought out, that the location was preferable to others put forward for development, it provided the right mix of properties, and that the additional facilities would be a benefit to the community they are objecting on the same basis as they have other recent applications.

Stonham Aspal is currently designated a secondary village where infill housing developments are considered appropriate. This however is a major development which would represent an increase of c.20% in the number of properties in the village. This is on top of applications for 15-20 houses already approved and another 36 currently under consideration. This scale of development would alter the identity of the village for the worse. The application is out of keeping with the current local plan and approval would set a precedent and change the status of the village leaving it open to further detrimental development.

There is concern over the sustainability of the development. With current school, medical and transport facilities being inadequate to cover the needs of the additional 46 households.

The increase in traffic on an already busy road (which is likely to be impacted heavily by commuter traffic for Sizewell C) is of great concern. There was suggestion that CIL money could be used to alleviate some of the safety issues caused by this, however the road is narrow as are the footpaths and there is no possibility of widening them.

The development is also positioned outside of the village envelope and as MSDC has their 5 year land supply it is not a necessity to erode these boundaries.

There are also some concerns over the safety of the entrance to the development on a bend where there is limited visibility in an area where speeding is common.

In addition the development would impact on at least two listed / properties of historic value namely Cheevers Farm and Ponds Cottage.