

WISSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Wissett Parish Council
c/o 10 The Street
Wissett
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 0JE
Date : 28th May 2016

Dear Sirs,

Re Waveney Local Plan and Wissett

Subsequent to the presentation attended by our Chair on 5th May and your email of 6th May, Wissett Parish Council discussed this matter at length on 19th May.

The Parish Council agree in principle for the need of new housing in the village, but have concerns over the potential size of a new development as suggested in the Local Plan.

The land shown as plot 104 in the plan with the potential for 53 homes has listed buildings in situ, which we could not agree to being removed.

Wissett is a rural village of some 131 dwellings with a population of circa 268. The addition of the potential 53 new homes would therefore increase the amount of homes by some 40%, and assuming an average of 3 people in each new home, a population increase of around 60%. We do not believe that this would be either sustainable, or in keeping with the village profile.

Roads to access and through, the village are also narrow and we currently experience traffic flow of around 34,000 vehicles per month through The Street, as recorded by our VAS equipment in April 2016.

Wissett has no facilities, other than a pub. There are no shops and no public transport. There are very few safe hard paths, limited lighting, no on road parking, only a small car park (at the opposite end of the village). Halesworth is over a mile away with no hard paths to walk there, so a car is essential. Halesworth Surgery is already busy, the hospital is marked for closure, and there is no secondary school, only a small junior school.

Any proposed development should be small (i.e. similar to Farm Close), and must have adequate off road parking for the home owners, and visitors, vehicles. It should also have an open area for play etc, as walking on the narrow road to the village field may be dangerous. Access to the site would also have to be looked at i.e. off of The Street or Mill Road. The Street is already busy as indicated above, and Mill Road is very narrow with few passing places. We believe that major road and footpath improvements would have to be made.

Yours sincerely,
For and on behalf of Wissett Parish Council

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