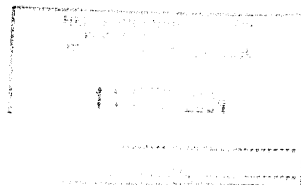


KIMBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL.

10th. February 2004.

County of Herefordshire District Council,
Northern Planning Services,
PO Box 230,
Blueschool House,
Blueschool Street,
Hereford.
HR1 2ZB.



Environment Directorate.

For the attention of Miss. P. Lowe.

Dear Sirs,

Re: Larksfield, Kimbolton, Leominster, Herefordshire. Proposed extensions to existing storage facility.

Application Number DCNC2004/0107/F.

The above planning application was discussed in great depth at our recent Parish Council meeting. In attendance at the meeting were many residents of Kimbolton who in one way or another will be affected by the proposed scheme. The outcome of the discussions at the meeting is as follows;

The Parish Council objects to the application in full.

Many of the areas of concern were raised against the previous application for the current potato store, being;

1. **Traffic flow:** The increased volume of lorries through the village throughout the year, and the increased volume of tractors and trailers during the harvesting period.
2. **Safety:** The stretch of the A4112 from the A49 to the site passes through the village and past the school. This section in its current form is not suitable for heavy lorries travelling in both directions. Heavy lorries travelling in opposite directions cannot pass one another at the top of Lever Hill. The access to the site is off this section of road. We are very concerned with regard to lorries and slow moving tractors and trailers pulling out onto the A4112, knowing the speed of the traffic that comes down Lever Hill.

You may also be aware that at long last after many years of discussions work is to be carried out to the A4112 through Kimbolton to provide a Gateway Scheme, funded by Herefordshire Council. We are concerned that if the above scheme is approved what affect in the future tractors carrying mud etc. will have on the new coloured surfacing, roundels and kerbs etc.

3. Visual impact: The current potato store can only be described as "Blot on the landscape". We are still receiving comments such as "who allowed such a building to be built in that location". It has totally impacted on the beauty of this area of countryside.

We are also having to defend a Council Policy that can allow such a huge building to be built, but turns down individual householders applications for small alterations and extensions to their own properties.

This new application triples the size of the current storage building also adding a grading building which will be even more damaging to the visual environment.

Item 8 of the original planning permission concerns a landscaping scheme "to protect the visual amenities of the area", to be approved by the local planning authority prior to commencement of the development. The work that has been carried out to date, two years after completion of the building, cannot be considered landscaping.

4. Services: Concern was expressed on the original application with regard to how to deal with the surface water. This according to the previous planning permission, item number 4, should have been resolved prior to the current potato store being built.

We are aware that this was not done, has caused problems to neighbouring land and is still an ongoing situation.

With such a huge increase in storage and a facility for grading there will be a major increase in traffic flow on the site, including parking for off-loading.

Is there to be any provision provided, such as a petrol interceptor, to prevent contaminated surface water entering the adjacent stream marked as Yolk brook?

5. Employment: It has been intimated that the current potato store provides full time employment. This is not the case, it only provides part time employment. This being, not to local people, but as we have been reliably informed to migrant farm workers from other areas.

This new application raises further concerns regarding services and employment. If there is to be a grading store with work being carried out at the site with what can only be assumed a larger work force what provisions are to be provided for Health and Welfare.

Will there be mess rooms, washing and drying facilities, and toilets a minimum legal requirement for a temporary building site never mind a full time employment site.

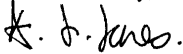
If there are to be these facilities how will the effluent be dealt with, as, stated in condition 4 of the previous planning permission there shall be no discharge of foul or contaminated drainage from the site into either groundwater or any surface waters, whether direct or via soakaways.

Finally we must point out that members of the local community are greatly concerned with this proposed extension to the existing store. Many people are still disappointed with the original approval and have made their views known to all members of the Parish Council.

We therefore reiterate that we are against this proposal. This is not in our opinion agriculture, but industrial agriculture. It is not suitable on a green field site but would be far better located on an industrial estate where all amenities and facilities are available.

A request has been made that a site visit by councillors be made in order that they can see for themselves the huge impact that this proposal will have on the environment.

Yours faithfully,



A. J. Jones. Chairman.

c.c. John Stone.

