

Tendring District Local Plan Part II

Examination Hearing Statement

Matter 2-Spatial Strategy

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On behalf of:

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1. This Hearing Statement is made in respect of Matter 2.
2. On this matter it is easy to be brief
3. Much of the Councils representations are sensible and based on good work and principles.
4. However, when dealing with Walton, Frinton, Kirby, Thorpe-le-Soken, Weeley, Holland, Clacton, Great Clacton and Little Clacton. Issue is taken.
5. Walton, Frinton, Kirby, Thorpe-le-Soken and Weeley are served by one important road, the B1033.
6. Along the road are a number of pinch points at, inter alia, Frinton Gates, Halstead Road roundabout, the length of Thorpe-le-Soken High Street and the Weeley roundabout.
7. It is not possible to bypass these villages nor is it possible to improve the road due to the ribbon development.
8. This road is the main, and in many respects it is the only road serving these communities.
9. Further major development should not be encouraged in these areas.
10. The Councils comments on this specific issue would be welcomed.

11. There have been a number of large developments, such as that at Landermere Road, Thorpe-le-Soken and Halstead Road, Kirby that have been opposed by the Council but have gained permission on two “technical grounds”

- (a) Lack of a five year supply
- (b) Essex Highways failure to object

12. As to point (b) the District Solicitor has said in open meeting that if Essex Highways fail to object on transport issues it can not be used as a grounds for refusal. In most cases the planning committee has been unanimous in its objection.

13. The above makes a mockery of localism. Can not Policies be “beefed-up” to help local Councillors?

14. The point in issue is there should be no major development along the B1033.

15. The Council's specific comments on this issue would be welcomed.

16. Further, an inspection of the routes by the Inspector would be welcomed especially during the period 08.00-10.00 weekdays.

17. At the current time, the Inspector should note that traffic flows are lower due to the closure of schools and Covid.

18. The problem is heightened greatly in the summer.

19. The current situation makes the enjoyment of living in these villages harder.

20. As stated above the Council’s objective comments are welcomed.

21. Enough of being negative and NIMBY if you wish.

22. The solution seems easy. Some new development should be allowed/encouraged along the B1441. This serves the villages of Little Clacton and Weeley, the two largest and most sustainable villages in the District.

23. The B1441 was the main road into the major seaside resort of Clacton-on-Sea in the 60’s, 70’s and 80’s before being bypassed.

24. This road could take more traffic and has the ability to join the A133 easily.

25. Further, these two villages have better infrastructure and facilitate than the other villages in the District.

26. The only thing these two villages lack is a doctor's surgery. This should be addressed.

27. The two villages are within three minutes drive of a railway station and have good bus routes.

28. According to the Parish magazine there are over 70 micro businesses in the two parishes. They have by Ofsted ranking two of the best schools in the District. Both have excellent play and sports facilities.

29. Both villages are desired locations. We need to build where people want to live. As above the District's representatives comments would be welcomed, if they are brave enough!

30. I believe the main issue is simple and hopefully it has been put in a way that those reading/listening can appreciate.