

Clerk Johnie Thorpe, Badgers, 1 Pondside Cottages, Graveley, Herts., SG4 7LG Phone 01438 759935 E mail <u>parishclerkgraveley@talktalk.net</u>

22nd March 2012.

Mr Ian Fullstone, North Hertfordshire District Council.

Email ian.fullstone@north-herts.gov.uk

Your ref 10/00583/1

Dear Mr Fullstone,

Thank you for your letter dated 29 February 2012. The Parish Council has considered your letter and makes the following comments.

The original statement 'Furthermore a fundamental change of this nature should really be considered as part of the planning process of any further development in the Great Ashby area', was as indicated in our letter to Councillor Bardett dated 15 December 2011, an extract from the Minutes of the North Herts. Highways Partnership Joint Members Panel. This, as we are sure that you are aware, is a panel made up of County Councillors, District Councillors with input from Herts Highways and is totally independent from the Parish Council.

Having read the Minutes, the Parish Council fully supported the suggestion as a sensible option, and asked the Joint Members Panel to write to the Director Of Planning as per the letter dated 15 December 2011. The Joint Members Panel agreed to this at their meeting 30 January 2012. The following is an extract from the Minutes of the meeting Item 37 'It was agreed that this letter would be forwarded to the NHDC Strategic Director of Planning, Housing and Enterprise and the HCC Area Development Control Manager to note for future reference'.

In paragraph two of your letter you say that the decision rests with the Planning Control Committee who will determine the planning application. We understand however that they are given a recommendation from the Planning Officers who should have ensured that a thorough investigation has taken place before making their recommendation.

With regard to your comments on the traffic impact of the development scheme (and not to correct existing highways problems), the existing problems have only occurred because previous developments have been permitted without appropriate road infrastructure being included.

To conclude, in your letter you mention the Croudace development of 360 dwellings. This proposal is located on a country lane with just one planned small relief road into Great Ashby - an already congested area. To suggest that this will have little or no impact on a single track country lane is in

the opinion of this Parish Council beyond belief. The Independent Highways Joint Members Panel, by forwarding to you our letter, support road closure/road modifications being carried out as part of the planning process.

Yours sincerely

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Johnie Thorpe Clerk to Graveley Parish Council.

 $Copies \ to: \ \underline{alanbardett1@btinternet.com} \quad \underline{simon.ellis@north-herts.gov.uk}$