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Liz Pickering

From: Patricia Collier [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 March 2011 09:46
To: Liz Pickering
Subject: Mid Devon Green Infrastructure - Initial Consultation

Dear Liz

Thank you for your letter inviting us to comment.

I attach our response. Would you please acknowledge receipt?


Many thanks

David & Tricia Collier

GreenInfrastructureMarch2011.doc

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Patricia shared an online file with you and it's saved on SkyDrive. To view this file, just click the link above.

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Chapel Anthony West Manley Lane Tiverton Devon EX16 4NH

Dear Ms Pickering

Reference: 'Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy-Initial Consultation.

The green infrastructure of West Manley Lane and its linked area- the railway walk and the Grand Western Canal- has changed little in the 36years we have lived on WML. We have perhaps taken for granted the freedom to enjoy beautiful countryside and views (as have many other Tiverton residents and visitors)

The threat posed to the area by the Eastern Urban Development Plan has galvanised us into action and we have joined the West Manley Lane Conservation Group in a effort to protect the area.

You will, of course, have access to all the information provided by WMLCG as presented to the inspector at the inquiry. We would like to express our support for all that was in that submission as well as the response from WMLCG to your letter dated 16th Feb 2011.

In the paragraph headed 'A Green Infrastructure Strategy for Mid Devon' you state 'There is no set recipe for the creation or management of GI....it must be tailored to the unique circumstances of that place'. The Inspector's report drew attention to W M Lane and that the hedgerows should be protected. If the hedgerows are closely bounded by urban development they become defunct as part of the green infrastructure. They need a buffer and to be zoned with the Railway walk and Canal to create a genuine green corridor.

As a rural amenity linked with the Railway walk and the Grand Western Canal the lane needs no enhancement, only protection. It is high banked natural Devon Lane which has served four local farms for centuries and is now also used recreationally by dog walkers, joggers, cyclists and walkers. It would be a (totally) natural 'experience' for the new local residents, convenient, easily accessible and a contrast to the built environment, play areas or small green spaces within the estates.

As is illustrated by Moorhayes Park without careful preplanning (The proposed Masterplan) and ensuring a rigid adherence to it, the developer can leave a very large site with little real green infrastructure. The Link Road will effectively cut off any access for recreation from the EUDP to the rural areas to the north. This makes West Manley Lane even more important as a natural link to the rural amenities to the south. It will be close to the proposed new school and will provide an excellent facility to develop Tiverton children's appreciation of their rural heritage and the natural environment (thatched cottage-the only one in Tiverton?-previously a forge, ancient cob barn, cobbled farmyard etc as well as the wide range of flora and fauna (as detailed in WMLCG survey)

If "Green Infrastructure" is not simply going to become part of the new jargon used by planners to satisfy the rural aspirations of local people then it must be used as a tool to protect what we already have for future generations. Simply insisting on a green field and a couple of designated cycle paths is the soft option. We hope that you will look to protect what we have on a broader and much more coordinated front.

Yours sincerely – David and Tricia Collier