



Uffculme Road
Willand, Cullompton
EX15 2SA

17TH March 14

Dear Mr Williams (Planning officer),

Local plan review Willand/Junction 27-Quicks Farm off the Uffculme Straight- 68 houses

I would like to object to the above development proposed within Willand parish.

I live and work at Quicks Farm, Willand where my father Gerald Westcott has the tenancy from the RABI (land owner) and farm is ran commercially with my parents as partners in the business with me and my brother working for them.

I am 21 years old and as well as farming I am do a degree in Agriculture Management at Bridgewater Collage, which is hard work to fit in with the farm commitments but I came see the benefits that I have brought home to the farm and in the further I hope to take on the tenancy, but with the continued development of green field sites on good quality land I feel as if farmers are being pushed out. I love traditional family farms when the animals and land are cared for with compassion and are not just a number.

The field is a green field site and very fertile, it is far too close to the farmyard, agriculture is the most dangerous industry in the UK according to Health and safety executive. This is the most dangerous site proposed in Willand, the other sites proposed in the village of Willand are NOT commercial working farms, the fields are let to other farmers with no farm building, slurry pits or underground water tanks beside them like we have. We do have accidents on the farm with animals getting out, we dont want them getting into the proposed housing estate. We will also get complaints about the smell and noise of the animals let alone flies in the summer. Our working day is long and is going to be made a misery if houses are built in a field backing onto our yard.

We farm 200 acres comprising of a 170 beef suckler herd and 450 sheep flock, Quicks Farm is our main holding with sheds and building to house the stock during the winter/wet summers. We walk cattle and sheep along Quicks Farm lane and onto the Uffculme Road, this is going to be made even more difficult with the change of access of Quicks Farm onto the Uffculme Road, which is a very fast road with very few vehicles keeping within the speed limit. It is too danderous to walk along the Uffculme Road.

There are very few family farms left in the area and this development will jeopardise the family business and we may not be able to continue, we have already had land taken from our tenancy for the Willand Moor housing development and Willands Mid Devon Business Park. If this field is developed if could well be the last nail in the coffin.

I strongly object to the above planning proposal and strongly erg you to turn down the plan, this is a green field site, the village lacks infrastructure at the moment without an extra development increase the pressure on its full to capacity primary school, preschool, village hall car park which have nowhere to expand. As a young farmer I want to help my family expanded the business, not have obstacles put in the way to make life and work harder.

Yours sincerely,

James Westcott