

## **Response from Moira Mitchell to Inspector's G&Ts pre-hearing questions**

**From:** Moira Mitchell

**Sent:** 29 May 2020 14:25

**To:** Tony Blackburn

**Subject:** Responses To Inspectors questions for Gypsy and Traveller Transit Site proposed at Sharneyford ,Bacup.

Dear Tony ,

Responses as follows,

### **Issue 1**

a) in the report EB 2014,the majority of the unauthorised encampments are at Futures Park , the preferred site by the Travellers themselves.  
EB015 states additional unauthorised encampments as 3 in 2016,one in 2017 and 3 in 2018.

b) in all previous consultations no one has broached "temporary stop over Points " only a Transit site for 4x2 caravans.

c)Our Mp Jake Berry has said sites in Hyndburn/Accrington on Rossendale's western boundary could be shared cross boundary.

On the Todmorden /Bacup boundary, Calderdale does not have local site provision close to the Lancs/Yorkshire boundary and has disapproved of the Travellers site in the Consultation Process.

### **Issue 2**

The gypsy Consultation document was 101 pages and done by external sources with a final recommendation that 1 extra pitch was required .

a) -D) Council to answer.

e) No changes at Sharneyford but Futures Park has now got a tenant for Plot 5 who has put a restriction on their lease to rule out Gypsies and Travellers.

### **Issue 3.**

a) Major works ongoing plot 5 at Futures Park, they also seem to be using Plot 4 with major earth work removals to back of plot 5.

Leases should not refer to land not within the registered plan.

Plot 3 still seems to be available and is ready for tidying up.

b)Plot 3 is still available at Futures Park,it has a considerable concrete hardstanding area which would need minimal work to allow caravan access.

It is well sheltered being at a lower altitude, it has many trees to the rear periphery, for shielding and all main services are close by therefore very low costs to add to site.

#### **Issue 4.**

a)-c)

On the Lancashire boundary, no services available especially at this level spring water only available.

Half mile to Primary school which is over subscribed by pupils mostly from the Greave area of Bacup.

Bus stop close to entrance to quarry site, small no of buses, service was removed completely for some time due to making a loss, now reinstated between Bacup and Todmorden, as secondary school children choose Todmorden High school from Bacup.

Last bus to Todmorden is 5pm, no Sunday service.

No sewerage, no mains water.

D)No current vehicular access, complete infrastructure required, concrete bases and services not in.

Broadband availability poor and variable mobile phone signal.

e) Extreme hardship at this elevation, Standpipes likely to freeze.

Full size static caravans have blown away in Sharneyford.

Touring caravans will need to be chained down in winter especially.

Snow common at this elevation and inclement weather common, that's why it's so green and wet with rushes growing everywhere in all the fields.

f) not seen a map of the flooded area.

g).Special Landscape Area at Gateway to Lancashire /Calderdale which is currently beautiful with a reintegrated quarry with lush

vegetation and lake, to be defiled by Rossendale Borough Council with concrete, sheds and washing lines where currently no one lives and

the standards are for stone housing with slate roofs and high standards of planning restrictions on "normal" suggested developments.

Particularly because the Quarry is way out of the Urban Boundary.

h)In the current area, all houses are stone and slate roofed.

The adjacent Toll House is Grade 2 listed.

Planning permission for housing has been severely restricted due to being outside the urban boundary so not agreeable to change to flat caravan parking with vehicles, horses, etc.

i)Large no of vehicles speed on the A671.

today 29/05/2020 traffic lights have been put up near the top of the hill as Cadent did not feel safe working on the gas main by the side of the road.

Wednesday 27/05/2020 at Capella House on the left hand side near the top a white cow was killed by a motorist who couldn't see it and its 2 day old calf was also hurt and orphaned and had to be caught. THE CAR WAS DESTROYED.

The bulk of the large "smelly " wagons are from Brosters Composting plant on the moortop ,.

Sharneyford sees all this traffic as they are not allowed to go down Bacup Road to Todmorden!

Brosters was previously a maggot farm.

Another monstrosity dumped on the Lancashire Yorkshire Border.

### **Issue 5**

a) the owners we understand are not currently aware of the councils plans to reuse their land with a CPO.

b-d) Council would have to pay, maintain and deliver the transit site.

### **Issue 6.**

**A-d) Council will need to find the answers..**

### **Finally,**

Suggest the vacant land at Reed Street, off Todmorden Road Bacup could be utilised as its currently an eyesore.

Its at low level , easy reach of shops on foot or horse. Easier reach of larger schools of Catholic and Cof E basis.

With sincere hope for a change of plan not to base Gypsies and Travellers at Tooter Hill Quarry ,Todmorden Road ,Bacup.

Regards ..

Moira Mitchell .  
Sharneyford Resident 37 years .