

Caddicks Airport Parking Plan

A new plan for parking 700 cars on the old Caddicks Nursery site has been re-submitted to the Council.

The previous plan was thrown out in August. It was a retrospective application to store vehicles for people travelling from Manchester Airport but unconnected with the official parking arrangements for the Airport.

It was opposed by local councillors, Grappenhall & Thelwall Parish Council, Lymm Parish Council and 136 local residents.

It was thrown out for two reasons:

- The proposed development would be inappropriate in the Green Belt, the impacts of the proposal would result in significant harm to the openness and permanence of the Green Belt due to the level of car parking and hard-standing
- The distance from Manchester Airport and the associated hotels intended to be serviced by the development would result in significant car based movements and operations which is contrary to the aims and objectives of sustainable development.

The new application is very similar except that it includes a playground, an assault course and a public amenity area.

In the autumn Warrington Council obtained a court injunction preventing the use of the site for unauthorised parking.

Lib Dem By-election gains
Nationally in 2018, the Liberal Democrats made a net gain of 18 seats in local council by-elections. The Conservatives lost 14, Labour lost 2 and UKIP lost 9.

Reasons for opposing this application

- No 'very special circumstances' to justify building on the Green Belt despite the benefits claimed by the applicant
- An unacceptable increase in the carbon footprint because of the distance from the airport
- Access to the site is very narrow and there is a risk of accidents and highway safety issues
- There is already enough traffic in this semi-rural location
- There is an increased risk of flooding due to the new hard-standing
- It is located near to a listed building and a Conservation Area and would detract from visual amenity
- Adverse effect on biodiversity

Consultation period

The consultation period for comments on this application ends on 4 February, so please try and submit your comments before this date. If this is not possible, then still send your comments to the Council. The Application reference is 2018/33904.

You can submit comments by

- 1) Writing to Planning, Warrington Borough Council, New Town House, Buttermarket Street, Warrington WA1 2NH
- 2) Emailing devcontrol@warrington.gov.uk
- 3) Visiting www.warrington.gov.uk and completing the on-line form having followed the links to find the application

Change at Town Hall

The Leader of Warrington Borough Council, Cllr Terry O'Neill has resigned and been replaced by Cllr Russ Bowden.



Cllr Bob Barr, Leader of the Liberal

Democrat opposition on the Council, thanked Cllr O'Neill for his contribution and welcomed Cllr Bowden into his new role. Bob said, "We hope that there will be a change of style with the new leadership. The Council needs to be more open and transparent, consult more widely with residents, and develop a clearer vision for the town as a whole.

We need more cross-party working on the long-term issues which are not matters for party politics but need the support of the whole council."



Update on Neighbourhood Plan

A Neighbourhood Plan is a community-led planning framework for guiding the future development of our area.

Cllr Ryan Bate says, "A survey was distributed to every household in the Parish last November and 675 were returned. A public meeting was held at the end of the month and 25 residents offered to help with the next stage. This is excellent



because this Plan will have legal weight once adopted with a real impact on our two villages."

Threats from Planning Applications



Stobarts is appealing against the refusal to grant them planning permission for a distribution centre in the south of the borough. Another application is expected for the massive Six56 distribution centre next to Junction 20. Cllr Cliff Taylor, Chairman of the combined South Warrington Parish Councils Group says, "The revised Local Plan is now due out in early March. With the aid of our professional planning consultant we will be vigorously opposing unacceptable developments which harm our Green Belt."



More time for Sandy Lane Tip

The threat to close the Sandy Lane Community Recycling Centre in Stockton Heath has been put on hold, thanks to the power of local protest.



The Labour Council reversed the decision to shut it down asking officers to find ways of reducing running costs allowing it to stay open. A report back is due in May.

Cllr Wendy Johnson says, "For nearly five years we have been fighting against the closure of our recycling centre until a better site south of the Ship Canal can be found. Our campaign included taking a previous closure decision to the Council's Scrutiny Committee to get it reversed.



The strength of feeling in the South to keep it open, can be seen from the 3,841 signatures on our petition presented to the Council last year. I am pleased that the Labour Administration is having a rethink."

Pressure on Council

Old shop

Cllr Ian Marks says, "We are keeping up the pressure on the Council to get some action on the eyesore at the corner of Alderley and Thelwall New Roads. The Council keep on telling us a planning application is on its way, but when!"



Speed Limit

Local resident, Brian Davies says, "I am pushing the Council's Highways department for a date when they are going to review the speed limit on Lymm Road. They say it is 'on the list'. A motor cyclist came off his bike here recently. Luckily there was no fast moving traffic to cause a problem."



Your FOCUS Team – can we help you?

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