

WISWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Councillor J H Strong



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Mr J Machole
Head of Planning Services
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2RA

23rd May 2012

Dear Mr Machole

Planning Application No: 3/2012/0346
Outline Application for mixed B1, B2 and B8 industrial use including access
Land off Hey Road, Barrow, Clitheroe, Lancashire, BB7 9WA

The above application has now been considered by the Parish Council and Members wish to object in order to safeguard the village and its surrounding areas.

Members are surprised that the developers have submitted an application for change of use as there appears to be no interest in commercial development in this area of the Ribble Valley. The developers, Newclose Properties Ltd, previously owned the Printworks site, part of which has now become residential property after failing to attract any commercial interest. Members are concerned that a similar planning application for residential development might be made on this land if an application for change of use is approved.

The Parish Council are aware that the planning application for residential development on an adjoining site designated for light industrial use also refers to a complete lack of commercial interest. Members believe that this land should be used for its designated purpose before planning permission is granted to develop greenfield sites.

In addition, Members wish to point out that the village's sewerage facilities are insufficient to cope with any further development. They also have concerns regarding surface water on the site and whether the development would increase the pressure on the water systems and cause flooding in the cellars on Old Row.

Finally, Members believe that the reports included with the application have missed the colony of bats which live nearby and are witnessed by many local residents. They believe that the surrounding green areas of the village must be protected and are concerned that the village is slowly losing its habitats for birds, bats and wildlife.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Wilson

Mrs Victoria Wilson
Clerk to the Parish Council