

RIBCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office
16 Church Street
Ribchester
PR3 3XP

26 August 2022

Planning Department
RVBC
Church Walk
CLITHEROE
BB7 2RA

FAO Mr S Kilmartin

Dear Planning Department

RE: 3/2022/0553 Higher College Farm, Lower Road, Longridge PR3 2YY

I write to notify you that this Council is extremely concerned about the above planning application, but very pleased to note that we (along with Longridge Town Council and Hothersall Parish Council) have been invited to specifically comment on the particular aspect of increased traffic movements and to consider what impact these might have on our village.

During the last two years we have noticed a worrying increase in the number of very large vehicles (particularly articulated lorries) which are entering the centre of the village and then causing serious problems during their manoeuvres to turn around and return to the main road. For a longer period still, we have been dismayed by the degradation of the road surface from Longridge to Ribchester. True this was given some attention, in part, during the early part of this year, but there is already evidence of further 'wear and tear' to the surface. We are firmly of the opinion that this is down to the increased volume of heavy vehicles *en route* to and from Longridge at one side and to the A59 junction at the other.

Ribchester residents frequently use Preston Road to Longridge and beyond and as a Council we receive regular negative comments about the speed of traffic on that road. There appears to be some inconsistency in the application of speed limits on this stretch of road. At points where one might expect the speed limit to be 30 mph, it is not so designated. The junction at the Corporation Arms is particularly hazardous and the term-time Taxi waiting outside Hillside School in Hothersall creates a daily hazard. Again, there have been numerous comments about the dangers of overtaking on this part of the road made to the Parish Councillors.

We are particularly concerned that the anticipated increase in large vehicles accessing the proposed development will have serious implications for the size, volume and speed of traffic entering Ribchester. We are very exercised by the likely increase in road traffic accidents and potential dangers to our residents.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Carol Milne
Chairman, Parish Council

