

Director of Economic Development and Planning  
Council Offices  
Church Walk  
Clitheroe  
BB7 2RA




16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Ref – planning application numbers – Marl Hill Section 3/2021/0661 & Bowland Section3/2021/0660.**

Dear Sirs.

Further to the resubmission of the above planning applications we wish to submit our objection to the planning application.

 the property faces on to West Bradford Road and feel we have been very fortunate to be living in an **'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'**.

But cannot believe the activities associated with the United Utilities work will destroy Village life, the project will be at the detriment of the residents of Waddington.

We recognise and understand that the works to be carried out by United Utilities are essential works to support the freshwater infrastructure for the North West but we have serious concerns for our local rural community and the health and welfare of the residents in the affected areas.

Our objection to the project is around –

- Traffic generated
- Highways Safety
- Impact on the village infrastructure, noise and disruption
- Hazardous airborne materials causing pollution
- Effect on the resident's mental health.

**Traffic Generated.**

The Transport Statement submitted by the applicant states that there will be some 275,000 two way vehicle movements of varying sized vehicles carrying plant and equipment. What does not get taken into consideration is in addition to the construction traffic the village of Waddington in particular and the surrounding villages has additional vehicle activity including the following –

- School buses
- Farm vehicles
- Coaches
- Cyclists
- Delivery vehicles
- Construction traffic servicing the David Wilson Waddow Heights site on Waddington Road (vehicles carrying roof trusses, insulation, brickwork, blockwork, mobile cranes)
- Construction traffic servicing the housing development on Hawthorne Place, Waddington Road.
- Vehicles servicing the quarry.

Due to the height restriction to the steel railway bridge on Waddington Road, Clitheroe, all large construction vehicles servicing housing developments off Waddington Road are re-routed along the A59, through West Bradford and into Waddington which regularly causes major disruption and damage in Waddington. On one occasion a crane turning right onto West Bradford Road, heading West, crashed into a house in The Square and removed 6no. Quoin stones, damaged the roof and a street lighting column. Had there been someone walking or cycling in the area at the time then there could have been a fatality. Images are attached to this letter showing the damage. This is an example of the issues we have had in Waddington area over the past two years and the United Utility works will only increase this major issue and risk to residents and also impact significantly on villager's health and wellbeing.

We have had cranes hitting houses, a wagon traveling from West Bradford turning left towards Clitheroe take three bollards out in front of the Higher Buck, this in areas where Elderly and young walk.

### **Highways Safety.**

We have serious concerns around the safety of adults and young children in the village when the United Utility Project commences.

There are various stretches of roadway on West Bradford Road and around Waddington Square where there are no footpaths. Parents walking with children to the local school and elderly people walking to either the Almshouses or the bus stops in the village will be in significant dangerous when large articulated vehicles pass through the village. This will also be the case for dog walkers, visitors to the village and the large amount of cyclists passing through the village.

There are many instances where parked vehicles outside residential properties reduce the width of the carriageway which even now causes vehicle "passing" issues. The severity of this issue will only be exacerbated when the project commences.

There have been examples of large vehicles damaging trees at high level, leaving large branches on the carriageway. This has an impact on the Flora and Fauna in the Waddington, a rural village!

We currently have safety issues with the Armstrong waggons speeding through the village and should this type of driving be adopted by United Utilities (as large vehicles do pick up speed heading down from the fell) then there will be accidents when vehicles turn left past the Higher Buck.

Another current safety issue in the village is Branch Road. Vehicles coming up Branch Road from the Waddington have difficulties seeing on-coming traffic when joining West Bradford Road. Again this is an example of the danger when large vehicles will meet cars and cyclists at one of the junctions in Waddington.

**United Utilities and their development team should be challenged on their consultation process and decision to put forward the traffic route as set out in the planning application.**

### **Impact on the Village Infrastructure.**

Waddington and the surrounding villages are picturesque villages, set in a rural setting and attracts many visitors all the year round. It is our opinion that this project will have a detrimental impact on the infrastructure and setting of the villages.

In particular buildings located on the traffic route will be subjected to noise, vibration and intermittent loss of light. Vibration on old properties in the village caused by articulated

vehicles will cause serious structural damage and movement. This will have a detrimental impact on house values and residents wellbeing.

Historically there has been a weight limit on the Waddington Bridge on West Bradford Road. However the weight limit is no longer identified on the bridge. We have serious concerns that the size of vehicles a set out in the transport report will cause structural damage to the bridge. It has to be noted that the bridge is **Listed**.

Large amounts of the carriage way on the identified vehicular route are currently in poor condition. Currently when tractors or trailers or other large vehicles travel over the damaged surface, such as worn tarmac and pot holes, the vehicles generate extremely loud noises when they pass over the damaged surfaces and crash into the pot holes. The current vehicles servicing Waddow Heights Development have already caused significant disruption to residents sleeping pattern which is having a massive impact on their wellbeing and mental health.

The carriage way will suffer immensely on commencement of the project, causing increased noise. This will mean that residents effected by the suggested vehicular route will have to close all windows and perhaps increase the acoustic value of windows. Everyone knows, as we have lived/living through a pandemic the importance of fresh air in buildings and houses and how this important to our wellbeing. Due to increase in external noise fresh air and ventilation to our homes will be lost.

There is also the potential for a loss of revenue for the villages. Waddington and adjoining villages have established themselves as fabulous places to visit. All the churches are very busy with weddings and the hotels / pubs cater for visiting guest. This may well be lost when people see the disruption to the villages.

There is no consideration for the culvert that flows between Brookdale and Berner House, the road regularly floods with heavy rain, where the culvert dispenses into the field opposite there is no kerb and the road collapses into the field/ stream.

**The health and welfare of residents in the village must be considered.**

**The impact on the infrastructure in Waddington and the surrounding Villages must be considered.**

**Hazardous Airborne Materials Causing Pollution.**

Transport is the biggest source of air and noise pollution in the UK and contribute to significant amounts of nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide. This pollution increase could have a significant increase in the health of our community

**Effect on our wellbeing and mental health.**

The increase in vehicular activity will have a detrimental impact on the environment, people's wellbeing and people's mental health in Waddington and surrounding villages. We feel that adults and young children will chose not to go outside to either play, go to the park or ride bikes due to the dangers on the road. This will impact on their health and wellbeing and also has the potential to put pressure on GP Practice's in Clitheroe and Whalley.

We are gravely concerned for our access in and out of our drive, causing us anxious sleepness nights, as the proposed Lorry Park is only meters away, by widening the road you are opening up for people to speed and use the road into the village as a race track.

**Conclusion.**

**We fully understand that there is a requirement to replace defective pipework and improve the resilience of the water supply to the North West but NOT to the detriment of residents in the Waddington and surrounding villages.**

**When determining this planning application we would ask you to consider the suggested transport route in our rural setting and consider the health, safety and**

**wellbeing of all residents impacted upon by the project. We strongly feel that permission should NOT be granted and United Utilities should be asked to develop an alternative route to service the site compounds.**

Regards.

