

AONB DPD Consultation Event

John and Sue Mellor [REDACTED]

We attended the Consultation Event in November and noticed that development was planned for the field in the middle of Storth bounded by Yans Lane.

We are aware that housing is required for different reasons in South Lakes, and that suitable sites have to be found. One of the reasons is to provide homes for working people, but the rural nature of, and poor transport links in Storth mean that a car is essential.

This particular site has a number of inherent problems if it is to be developed. Access for traffic and emergency vehicles on the single track lanes and sharp bends are a problem and can only be compounded by increasing the traffic load .

Ingress, and more particularly egress into Storth Rd from Yans Lane is from a single track road which meets it at an angle which creates a blind corner. The same is true of access past the Post Office onto Storth Rd. This only works at present due to the low volume of traffic.

Over the past few Winters we have noticed both the single track Yans Lane, between the field and the village park, and the field in the centre, are subject to flooding.

It might be better to consider a smaller development using the un-adopted Quarry Lane as an upgraded access road if this were possible. If this was upgraded through to the coastal road nearer Milnthorpe this would also create an alternative route at high tide.

The now regular flooding of the coastal road on the North side of the village creates a further problem of access (see excerpt from Westmorland Gazette article below for corroboration).

The field is part of a pleasant valley in an AONB bounded by woods to the East. A local farmer raises beef cattle on this land each year so it is used productively. A well- used local walk goes through this area and benefits from the views down the valley.

I am sure there must be other sites to choose for development which do not have these inherent access problems, and would have less of an impact on what is a beautiful part of the village in an AONB.

Excerpt from Westmorland Gazette Article Dec 3rd

'Flooding issues make it crucial that Arnside Fire Station stays open, says campaigner'

"The debris shows how high it (the flooding)had been. It follows that if our fire station were closed we would be without help should a fire-engine be needed here. Milnthorpe's would not get through.

"After high tide some high vehicles can get up the road to the left into Storth, but it is narrow with tight bends, but they would have a convoluted journey on the back roads to the A6.

"The road round the bend is even lower the Storth side."

Meanwhile, the county council is holding a public drop-in event in Staveley next week to enable people to comment on proposals to close Staveley fire station.

The consultation event is being held at Staveley Village Hall on Tuesday from noon to 7pm.

Comments on the proposals can be made on the county council's website at www.cumbria.citizenspace.com/cumbria-county-council/environment/cumbria-fire-rescue-service-draft-integrated-risk.

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Sign our online petition at: www.change.org/p/cumbria-county-council-a-westmorland-gazette-campaign-save-arnside-and-staveley-fire-stations-from-closure

The consultation runs until Friday 22 January