

Barbara Norton

10th December 2015

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Arnside & Silverdale AONB Development Plan: comments relating to Arnside

In order for any village to thrive, the population needs to be stable or increase, by retaining its younger population and by newcomers coming into the area. As well as building more houses, the infrastructure needs upgrading.

DPD Para 3.5. Highway Arnside, Silverdale Road, south of its junction with Briery Bank. There is no continuous pavement along this road, which is used by pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. The lack of pavement means cars pull well into the road to see if it is clear to pull out. Pedestrians usually have to retreat into gateways to allow traffic to pass (especially when there is traffic in both directions), though this is not always possible. Very few drivers wait for, or apparently even notice, pedestrians. There is no signage, either coming into Arnside from Silverdale or at the top of Briery Bank, warning of the lack of footpaths or that there are pedestrians in the road. In fact there is no sign on Briery Bank warning of a junction, with walls and hedges this is dangerous for pedestrians to cross (especially when drivers are reluctant to indicate where they are going). Even without any increase in development in Arnside (or Silverdale) this section of road needs to be made safer.

Para 5.17. Silverdale Road, Arnside is a main pedestrian route to the houses, the caravan sites and the Knott and also used by many cyclists. See notes above.

Para 5.20. The 551/2 bus service is vital for many in Arnside, but within the last year the reduction of services has led to a reduction in numbers using it. As to whether this means more people are using cars (possibly when not fit to drive) unnecessarily increasing the number of cars on the road and finding parking spaces, or else preventing people getting out for social contacts or to shop, which has a detrimental effect on the health and welfare of the young and elderly alike and ultimately an increased cost to the health service. As Arnside has an elderly population and needs to retain/increase the younger inhabitants the retention and improvement to this bus service needs to be ensured. If the Furness rail line had enough coaches for the passengers to find seats, the guards may be able to collect all the fares and give an accurate number of the passengers using this line.

Para 5.22. Notices at the entrances to the Knott and other open areas should warn of the dangers of ticks and Lyme disease, more prominent warnings of the dangers of the quicksand are needed.

Para 5.31. Biodiversity connectivity should be with areas beyond the AONB and as within it, in order to maintain and increase the genetic diversity as well as the biodiversity.

Para 5.32. Rain water running down Silverdale Road would be reduced as a problem for pedestrians by the provision of a continuous pavement.

Maps A13, A17. I would like clarification of the development proposal and open space for these areas. There have been suggestions of an extension to the cemetery; would this be open space or development? What other development is being considered?

Yours


Barbara Norton