



LETTERS to the Editor...

The Editor welcomes views on any topic of interest to your fellow Welton residents. You can send your letters to: The Editor, Welton NEWS, c/o Parish Office, 7 Lincoln Road, Welton, LN2 3HZ; or to weltonnews@gmail.com. You must include your name and address; the address will not normally be published and your name will be published only with your permission.

Dear Editor,

I was thinking that during lockdown it was wonderful to be able to walk from the village into the lovely countryside we have around us. We could watch the seasons pass, the fields being ploughed, harrowed, seeded and eventually harvested.

It is a pity however that we do not have access to local woodland, having been deprived of visiting William Farr Woods and now the copse at Old Man's Head has been barred.

As more land around the village is taken up for housing, perhaps it is time that the people of Welton got together to buy land and plant trees for the future generations. Let's have a true green agenda for the village.

If there is anyone interested in discussing this further please contact me on johndryland4@gmail.com.

John Ryland

Dear Editor,

In the recent Chesham and Amersham by-election the Conservatives lost a safe seat to the Liberal Democrats, in part, it was reported, as a rebellion against the government and its current attitude towards planning: reports of family houses in pleasant residential locations being torn down and replaced with blocks of flats.

It makes me wonder how in a Tory safe seat like ours can our voices be heard, particularly on planning? So I read with interest the planning application for 49 houses on the back of the Hardings. It is in the neighbourhood plan, along with the field next to it with a possible 160 houses. I think it's time that there was a more transparent way of showing new people in the village what is planned.

The points I would like to make will be submitted to Lindum Homes, although not with any expectation of anything making a difference, but simply as an exercise as it really is too late to alter anything and, in my experience, also incredibly stressful.

For anyone who has already decided reading this that I am a nimby, I don't think that after all the new housing that has been built in the village over the last 10 years you could accuse anyone of that. Welton has tolerated more additional housing than most over the years.

My points regarding more housing developments are:

1. At the new development, an optimistic 33 car movements are anticipated in rush hour. One imagines that every house will have at least one or two cars. However many car movements are made, it will not affect the new development but will affect every other road in the village; which will dramatically alter the experience of living in Welton.
2. Is there any plan on behalf of the village to protect the existing residents? Eastfield Lane has some of the most expensive housing stock and some of the highest council tax rates in the village. The traffic on the lane is a permanent presence, starting at 3am to 4am and continuing throughout the day. At peak hours the speeding is excessive. There are also huge tractors that bounce up and down the lane. I have nothing against this but they are most certainly not adhering to the speed limit.

All this begs the question; why would you live here when pre-eminence is given to new builds all the time. Couldn't a weight restriction be introduced to prevent unwanted lorries and buses using the village as a cut through? Something as a gesture to the existing residents that says your needs and life-long investment in your home are being considered. As it stands, the only option seems to be to move.

A local resident

Dear Editor,

Eastfield Lane was recently disrupted by work being undertaken by Western Power. After cosmetic restoration of the grass verges, a heavy vehicle became bogged down in the backfill of a trench on the junction with Northfield Road, and left deep ruts. This was reported on Fix My Street because the ruts were (and still are) in excess of 25 cm deep, and pose a trip hazard; especially now that they have been concealed by over-growing grass. Fix My Street have inspected the site and are taking no action; but I have been asked to advise them if things get any worse. What's the point? Having had it drawn to my attention, I have just been to the junction with Eastfield Close, and counted 54 temporary repairs to potholes. How can things get worse? The parish and district councils are aware of the issues; but cannot act because Highways are a Lincolnshire County Council responsibility.

Phil Rodgers MBE