

**MATTER FIVE/ DRAFT HEARINGS PROGRAMME**

**SOUTH RIBBLE EXAMINATION – SITES AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

**Emnie Lane site, Leyland (Policies G – Chapter G3)**

**14<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

**Response date: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

Dear Mrs Parker

The reasons for my Agreement to the above site policy to safeguard this land are as follows:

Over the past few months, after finding out about the LDF plans some of the local residents have been meeting to discuss the LDF and I can assure you that the feelings below are shared by many other residents. We canvassed opinions for the responses required to this site plan in December and you will see that we had 114 residents that stated their objections and concerns about this site in writing. The quality of life for these residents and other local people who visit the area to walk and enjoy the countryside on their doorstep would be greatly affected by these plans.

The land is part of the Leyland Hundred, It has been farmed since mediaeval times. It is still used for agriculture and it would be a terrible shame if it were lost to employment or housing. Leyland needs to retain its farmland, as it is an important part of the landscape, providing jobs, and creating produce. We need to encourage agriculture, the growing of local produce, and retain our farming heritage. Once the land has gone, it is gone forever. We need to keep our green spaces; it serves as the lungs of the community.

The local community uses this land with the public footpaths along the River Lostock and across the fields. There is a rich and wide and diversity of wildlife that inhabit the area, from birds of prey, rare newts, owls, kingfishers, Herons, water voles, Badgers, foxes, brown mice, pheasants, butterflies and insects. We have two choices; protect the land and the habitat of these creatures, or destroy them and their environment with the development of the land.

The current road infrastructure is unable cope with any further development. The roads are already very busy and unable support any more traffic that would result from this development. There is no provision for any road widening, and existing services are stretched to capacity already.

Brownfield sites should be targeted ahead of any Greenfield sites, and there are many of these sites available in South Ribble.

The current employment centres are under utilised, and should be fully developed before creating more business sites, that will have little or no take-up. The new Enterprise Zone at Samlesbury will have better funding and infrastructure to cope than this site.

I would ask you to take these comments into consideration on the safeguarding of this land.

Yours sincerely

Angela Edney