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August 2017 Gateacre Society News Extra

1 message

Gateacre Society <membership@gatsoc.org.uk>

16 August 2017 at 14:57

To: Friends <friends@gatsoc.org.uk>

Bcc: davidalanwilson@gmail.com

Dear Friend,

The next Gateacre Society Newsletter will not be issued until early September, but we want to make you aware of a planning application that has recently been submitted. It relates to the former Gateacre Comprehensive School site (Grange Lane/Gateacre Park Drive/Cuckoo Lane) which, as you know, has been one of our main areas of concern during the past few years.

Countryside Properties have applied "To erect 106 dwellings with associated landscaping, roads and new accesses to Grange Lane and Cuckoo Lane (replacing 75 dwellings on the development site previously approved under 16F/0883)". This will increase the total number of houses on the former school site from 200 (for which planning permission was granted in July 2015) to 231. The closing date for objections to the planning application – ref. 17F/1805 – is 28th August.

When the original plans were submitted in 2015 we argued for no more than 150 dwellings, which is about the average density of the surrounding area. We also wanted a one hectare open space to be provided within the development – in accordance with the UDP policy for housing estates in Park Deficiency Areas – but our arguments were rejected. We were told that an open space was unaffordable, because the land would have to be 'remediated' at high cost before any development could take place. Instead we were promised a high-quality residential environment, with detached houses, private gardens, and tree-lined roads giving long-distance views towards Prescot and beyond.

Now, with just over half of the houses already occupied or at various stages of construction, Countryside Properties are proposing to amend the plans for the remainder of the development. They are proposing to build 72 detached and 34 semi-detached houses, instead of 69 detached and 6 semi-detached. Countryside say that this is "to respond to the marketing of the site". We think that the new plan will downgrade the estate, exacerbate the shortage of outdoor space, cause traffic problems and increase the pressure on local schools and healthcare services.

Please visit our website – at <http://www.liverpool.ndo.co.uk/gatsoc/news17/page23.html> – for further information, including guidance on how to submit an objection. If you decide to email your comments to the Council, you should address them to planningandbuildingcontrol@liverpool.gov.uk, quote the Application No. 17F/1805 and include your own postal address.

The next Newsletter will contain a reminder about Heritage Open Day (Saturday 9th September). Gateacre Chapel is open 10.30am-4pm and St Stephen's Church is open 10am-3pm. I shall be leading a circular historical walk linking the two venues, which you can join at either the Chapel (1pm) or St Stephen's (2.30pm).

The Newsletter will also advertise our next talk, which is entitled 'Liverpool Heroes'. Bill Sergeant has studied the life of Captain Noel Chavasse and will be talking to us on Monday 18th September, 7.30pm, in Gateacre Chapel.

All of the events mentioned above are open to all, free of charge. Please forward this information to any interested neighbours and friends.

Regards,

Mike Chitty
(Newsletter Editor, The Gateacre Society)
<http://www.gatsoc.org.uk>