

Sent: 10 September 2018 23:48
To: Developmentmanagement
Subject: Courtfield House Polebarn Road Trowbridge - OBJECTION

Development Management
Wiltshire Council, County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge, BA14 8JN

Via Email 10 September 2018

Dear Sir or Madam

Planning application 18/04656/FUL

We object to the above planning application and wish to support the heritage, environment and civic bodies that have already expressed their opposition.

The proposal would bulldoze an historic orchard and fill the site with unaffordable homes, while extinguishing all hope of meeting the real needs of a town already blighted by the wrong kinds of development – retail sprawl, and an environment dominated by traffic and car parks.

The White Horse Alliance has consistently argued that the county town is in urgent need of more creative spatial and transport planning if it is to bring life back into the centre, civilise the public realm and attract any kind of employment other than the national retailers and fast-food outlets that make it just another mediocre clone town.

This proposal for the Courtfield House site would destroy a large and historic open space of great value to wildlife and heritage. It would not help to meet the urgent need for more affordable housing and would do nothing to enhance the cultural life of the town.

If this application is approved Trowbridge and Wiltshire will miss a great opportunity to do something to make the town something more than a place to go shopping.

We trust that the planning committee will agree with Historic England that this proposal would ‘destroy the building's historical status and setting’ and would be ‘wrong and inappropriate.’

The committee should not hesitate to reject this destructive proposal, leaving the way open for the town council and Wiltshire Council to discuss alternative plans with the owner and the civic organisations that have proposed more sustainable uses for the site, including a community orchard.

Patrick Kinnersly

Secretary
White Horse Alliance