



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

8th February 2010

Carol Ann Lee,
Room 3/19A,
Planning Inspectorate,
Temple Quay House,
2, The Square,
Temple Quay,
BRISTOL,
BS1 6PN.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Gray'.

Planning Inspectorate Appeal Reference: APP/Y3940/A/09/2115332/NWF

Re: Land at Brynards Hill, Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire:

09/00871/OUT – Mixed Use Development; and

09/00870/FUL – Change of Use to Country Park

I write on behalf of a large number of constituents in and around Wootton Bassett who are objecting most strongly to Wainhomes' proposal to build 100 houses on Brynards Hill, Wootton Bassett.

I strongly support Wiltshire Council's refusal of the current planning application and indeed feel on principle that Brynards Hill should be preserved as green land for the town in perpetuity.

It seems to me that this is an unreasonable invasion of the countryside and an improper use of green agricultural land, which is important for the well being of the people of the town.

It seems to me that the conclusion which the Council came to in refusing the application was entirely correct and is to be supported.

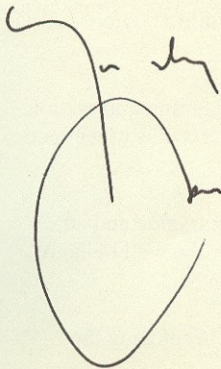
It occurs to me that the only reason why you might find against Wiltshire Council would be if you were unreasonably persuaded that the Regional Spatial Strategy requires such a large number of homes to be built in and around Wiltshire that it is necessary to find somewhere to build them.

Without seeking to involve you in party politics in any way, it seems to me to be an entirely pertinent part of your consideration of this application to be aware that if there were to be an incoming Conservative Government, which may will be

within months of now, the so-called Regional Spatial Strategy and the very large number of homes which it requires would be abolished as soon as was possible to do so, and decision-making about the number of houses required and indeed their location being returned to where it very properly should be, namely to local Councillors.

On the question of demand for housing in the area, it may also be pertinent to bear in mind that it has now become clear that RAF Lyneham will close with effect from mid-summer next year, when the last of the planes will leave, and given that there are 3,500 service personnel and 750 civilians involved on the site, it is likely if anything that demand for housing in Wootton Bassett will decline, rather than increase. Simultaneously, of course, businesses in Swindon have been suffering in recent years and very large developments, for example in the front garden, but also to the north and east of Swindon has provided significant extra housing. I am by no means convinced that even if within the last twelve months there was thought to be any demand in and around Wootton Bassett, that demand will be as pressing in the future as it was in the past.

I would happily appear at your inquiry if you felt that was useful to speak up on behalf of the Council and of the objectors to these plans and, if that were helpful, to expand on these political aspects of the application. As it happens, the week including 16th February is the Parliamentary half term recess and therefore I am in Wiltshire on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, and would happily appear at the inquiry and give evidence at any time convenient. I would be most grateful if you would let me know your thoughts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop at the bottom, a vertical line extending upwards from the center of the loop, and a horizontal line crossing the vertical line near the top. There are some additional scribbles to the right of the vertical line.