Dear Mr Taylor

Proposed Gypsy/Traveller Site at 5 Acres, Wicken Bonhunt

Now that the eagerly awaited Environment Agency review has been received, I would like to remind both you and the new Working Group that there were many other issues of concern raised by many of the settled community of Wicken Bonhunt.

One concern is the single carriageway, protected lane (Poore Street) and its 60mph speed limit. This would cause serious road traffic congestion with farm vehicles, particularly during the harvest season as it has no safe pedestrian walkway. Children are associated with Gypsy/Traveller residents who would have to walk to Wicken Bonhunt for limited public transport or schooling in associated villages.

Another concern is the sustainability of such a community. There are no shops, schools, regular public transport or employment opportunities in the village of Wicken Bonhunt. There is no street lighting and limited footpaths in the village. The increased population proposed for the site would put additional strain on all utilities, particularly the water table and sewage removal. Wicken has experienced problems in the past with overflowing in the Meads, an area very close to the proposed site.

Finally, the flood risk concern has been thoroughly discussed and the considerations of the Environment Agency should alert all members that it is a major issue that would worry Uttlesford District Council, let alone the Gypsy/Traveller and settled communities alike.

I realise 5 Acres is still “in the mix” at present, but as the whole Local Plan is under review it would be opportune to remove this site completely, and include the future Gypsy/Traveller sites in its proper form under the new Local Plan.

Please take ALL the concerns of Wicken Bonhunt into consideration during your deliberations regarding 5 Acres – Poore Street. An UNSUITABLE Gypsy/Traveller Site.

Yours sincerely

Joan Morgan
Chair – Wicken Bonhunt

“Residents meeting for the protection of our Rural Community”