

BAe Proposals for Development

As the Chairman of the Freckleton Parish Plan I can categorically state that the residents of Freckleton do not want to see any major development of housing and/or supermarkets within the Freckleton area, although they do support small business enterprises.

(It is unfortunate that Warton does not have a Parish Plan, if they did we may have a much better balanced view of the BAe proposals.)

In the Freckleton Parish Plan, residents were very keen to see local shops and local businesses expand, but they are not interested in supermarket type of developments. For that matter they were not interested in quick food outlets or estate agents, they were more interested in local village store outlets

Having said that I happy about industrial units, (as I think most people in Freckleton are) I would rather they be situated off Lytham Road than at the Naze, which presents a hazard to local residents and Freckleton C.E school children due to the HGV vehicles using the route through Freckleton.

I am not happy about the supermarket food store or the other two non-food stores. What effect are these going to have on the local shops, which currently provide a sterling service?

The nearest food supermarkets are Kirkham (3miles) and Preston Docks (6 miles), Lytham and St Annes have Booths, (four miles). We also have B&Q and Dobbies within a 20-minute drive, as well as our own local building suppliers (Woody's and SPN). Do we need another?

Bear in mind that Kirkham has a number of non-food outlets which are currently undergoing severe competition from supermarket type stores within a 5 to 6 mile radius.

Improved traffic flow may be true, BUT a reduction in traffic, my foot, the fact that there will be a supermarket and industrial Units will only serve to increase traffic, during the whole day, not just at BAe peak times in the morning and afternoon and look what happened when the Morrison's store opened in Kirkham; it is now log jam along Poulton Street in Kirkham.

Both Warton and Freckleton are basically rural, and we want it to stay that way, that is what came out of the Freckleton Parish Plan.

The hotel and pub, who the heck wants to stay in a hotel in the middle of an industrial estate? There are five pubs within a radius of 2 miles, one of which provides motel style accommodation. Better and more relaxing hotel accommodation can be found in Lytham St Annes.

Restaurant, do we really need any more restaurants in this area? What about the existing local eating-places, who provide a yeoman service, they will certainly suffer if a new restaurant opens.

I would argue that BAe have around 7000 captive employees who would of course benefit from a supermarket on site, during their lunch break, but certainly not the local residents.

It would also appear that BAe have been buying up local properties with a future view to demolition, how does this equate to the local housing needs? (Stealth in action?!)

Apart from the industrial units, I certainly do not support the proposals, which are a death knell to the local shops and businesses.

These of course are my views and not necessarily those of the Freckleton Parish Council.

Cllr Colin Robb, (Chairman of the Freckleton Parish Plan.)