

14th June 2012

Dear Ms. Kirk,

Ref: Planning Application 11/00143/FUL (Cofferidge Close Stony Stratford)

I am writing on behalf of Stony Stratford Community Church to express our deep concerns regarding the development of Cofferidge Close. With reference to the web-site that has been set up to keep the residents of Stony Stratford informed of progress, I see that there is still much and increasing concern from the Stony Stratford community about the developments.

As a church which has been serving the town for over 350 years, we are concerned about the overall scale of the development and the impact that it will have on the town itself not to mention the loss of the dental surgery, tattoo parlor and the supermarket itself, albeit only during construction of the proposed supermarket. The infrastructure of roads is certainly not capable in their current layout, to sustain the development and will cause upset from a noise and traffic perspective to residents of neighbouring roads.

However our main concern is the possibility that the current car parking facilities of Cofferidge Close would be taken over by the developer and therefore no longer be classed as Public Highway. This could impose parking charges and greater parking limitations on time. Whilst this is only supposed at the moment, we are not only concerned for our neighbours and the impact it would have on local business, but also for the impact it will have on the community facilities we run as a church, including our elderly folks monthly tea, our weekly mums-n-tots group and our weekly "Drop In" lunch club. In addition it would also impact on our annual Winter Warmers project for the homeless, which we are involved in with the council and other churches in Milton Keynes. Our Sunday service program would also be greatly impacted by the possibility of having to pay for parking.

Senior Minister:
Rev Jacqui Green BA MTh

Associate Minister:
Rev Ross Dilnot BA

Treasurer:
Mr Colin Bowles

Secretary:
Mrs Rebecca Rich

We would petition the local authority to refuse planning permission for the current proposal of a large supermarket and associated works. Whilst we recognize that the company applying for planning permission for this work is managed by CBRE investors, who are a powerful and substantial global corporation, we ask that the feelings of the residents and businesses of Stony Stratford in addition to the town council are a priority in this matter and as such Milton Keynes Council support a much smaller, sensitive and more “in-keeping” development of the site.

This letter is supported by the church membership of approximately 170 people. Some of those have wanted to add their signature to this, but it is not possible, logistically, to gain everyone’s signature.

We look forward to seeing the progress of this matter and to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rev Ross Dilnot', written over a horizontal line.

Rev Ross Dilnot BA

Associate Minister

(on behalf of the leadership and attendees of Stony Stratford Community Church)

cc. Stony Stratford Town Council,

“Save Cofferidge Close”