

Carleton Rode Parish Council

Chairman: Mr John Laurie.

Parish Clerk. Sue Bunn.

Carletonrodepc@gmail.com

20th November 2023.

Dear Sir

Ref: GNLP Gypsy and Traveller Sites Allocations.

Following the meeting of Carleton Rode Parish Council, on the 14th November, we write to you outlining our strong objections regarding the Greater Norwich Local Plan Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations.

It is proposed to increase the number of pitches available at the following locations GNLP 5020 Romany Meadow, currently 6 pitches increasing to 12 and GNLP 5024 Upgate Street currently 2 pitches increasing to 6. A total of 10 new pitches in all.

As a Council we feel that the size and scale of proposed development is disproportionate to the size of the village and the services that Carleton Rode can provide. Neither site offer accessibility to schools or shops without using transport.

The sites both sit outside the development boundary and shops, schools and public transport can only be accessed by vehicles. A development for 3 Self Build homes, in the vicinity, has been refused in part due to the lack of access to local amenities.

Highways concerns. GNLP5020 Romany Meadow, access suggested through the existing entryway and through existing pitches but there is another gateway which could be utilised thus creating 2 self contained sites, this increase of vehicles would be pulling out on to a stretch of road with a 60mph limit. GNLP5024 Upgate Street is sited on a sharp S bend where the road narrows making pulling in or out hazardous. Neither site are served by a foot way.

Concerns over drainage. Further hard standing at both locations would increase run off and would lead to increased flooding on neighbouring land.

Exposed Sites. Both sites are noticeable in the landscape, sited in an arable farming area.

In 2009 when the original application was submitted for Romany Meadows there was uproar in the Parish with many objections to the site. The original site was to be small (4 pitches), family occupied and operate a repair business for traditional Gypsy Caravans over the years and several planning applications later, the site now has 6 pitches and can be used by anyone from the Traveller Community, this concerns the Council.

Romany Meadow has never been fully occupied thus raising the question of need for the pitches in this area.

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As a Council we feel that increasing the existing sites offers the least public resistance from the larger Community.

We look forward to hearing your views.

Yours sincerely

Sue Bunn

Parish Clerk to Carleton Rode Parish Council