

2 Minute presentation on Sustainability

For the Strategic Planning Board, Alexandra Stadium, Crewe

26 September 2013 from 10.30am

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One issue which is often of no importance to the developer but which should be of paramount concern to the Local Authority and particularly the Strategic Planning Board is that of sustainability.

It may be thought that White Moss Quarry is a discrete site but of course that's not the case.

The key service Centre for the site will be Alsager and that is where people will turn for Schools, Medical facilities, local shopping and the service industry of accountants, lawyers etc.

It seems obvious to me that 900 houses on White Moss alongside Alsager's allocation of 1000 (or Cheshire East's draft proposal of 1100) places an unacceptable burden on the existing infrastructures

Alsager Town Council has at its meeting on 17 September reasserted its position of strongly opposing any housing development on White Moss.

Unsustainability is shown by:

Jobs or rather the lack of them in the locality – presumably the site is intended to be a commuter centre but once again it's the Alsager town who will need to support that community in so many ways. Figures show that Alsager is some 300 short of the minimum jobs for a key service area)

Roads in Alsager are inadequate already in a number of respects. Its interesting that the developer of White Moss in its wisdom has sought to offer a highway scheme which seeks to bring more traffic along busy and narrow roads creating unnecessary rat runs. This, it was explained was to help the community. I think we can safely say that we can do without that sort of help!

There are considerable concerns about the water table and drainage in the locality. These are absolutely fundamental to sustainability and need to be at the forefront of the Board's thoughts.

The work of the developer on flora and fauna and the local habitat are admirable but the Strategic Board has even bigger Strategic issues to consider

Dare I suggest that this is exactly why the Strategic Board is here to think strategically and to ensure that the actualities of infrastructure and sustainability are acted upon.