4 April 2019

Clerk to Acton, Edleston & Henhull Parish Council
14 The Beeches
Nantwich
Cheshire CW5 5YP

Dear Madam

Acton, Edleston & Henhull Neighbourhood Plan

Please find enclosed my completed questionnaire in relation to the above.

Whilst I agree that most of the proposed NP represents a well-constructed strategic view for the next twenty years or so, I am extremely disappointed by most of the references made concerning Dorfold Hall and the proposed development/build of circa 69 new homes adjacent to the Monks Lane gateway.

Prima facie, it appears to me and based on the comments contained in the draft NP that the Parish Council have already made the decision to support Dorfold/Roundell on any future planning application. If that is the position, then you should say so now and publicly because in my opinion it is wholly unacceptable.

Paragraph 4.1.28 in the NP makes reference to the proposed planning and I have the following comments:

i) I strongly disagree that the development relates to the long-term sustainability of Dorfold Hall itself and the wedding venue. The wedding events company must be self-supporting and not dependent upon large chunks of countryside being sold off to support it. Put bluntly, it represents an opportunity for the Roundell family to benefit personally, even if the sale proceeds of development land end up in the 'events' company where the family can obviously pay themselves salary, dividends etc.

ii) When the NP says 'the land owner of Dorfold Hall', are you referring to the trustees?

iii) Reference is made to 'further consultations with the Parish Council'. If any discussions have taken place between May 2018 to date, presumably those meetings have been minuted and can be released in the public interest and on the basis of full transparency. Can you please provide me with copies of any relevant minutes?

The Kingsbourne development will ultimately provide 1,100 new homes within the Parish, including a new school, shops etc etc. Given that position, I fail to see or understand why there should still be a need for additional new houses in Acton or the other surrounding villages. In my opinion, that should be clearly stated in the NP. Over the past 24 months or so, Acton has been subject to continuous building and disruption from the relatively small density builds at Church Farm and The Star. There may now be further development within Dorfold Hall and consequently most residents are fed up of the disruptions to daily life

and the visual impact of the building work in progress on the village itself and additional development of potential greater density and the future prospect of further trenches of countryside being sold off for development will only create more disruption and impact on the quality of life in the village.

The most valuable comment in the NP is at 5.2.3 which says 'the most commonly sited reason for living or moving to the parishes was 'open countryside'.' This was followed closely by 'village rural life' and 'tranquillity'. I cannot agree more. Unfortunately that statement is clearly in conflict with what has been said at 4.1.28 and other parts of the NP which appear to support further development, desecration of the countryside and the destruction of rural life and the tranquillity that brings.

In summary, I very much hope you will take on board my comments above and that the NP is, where appropriate, redrafted.

Yours faithfully

