

The residents of Ulnes Walton have chosen to live in a rural peaceful area and paid a premium to do so.

Currently, no traffic associated to the two existing prisons comes along Moss Lane. It has less than 200 vehicles use it on a daily basis, less at the weekend. It is a quiet, peaceful area to live.

By allowing the car park and entrance in the proposed location, it will bring a significant increase in traffic, noise and pollution, reducing the air quality not just during the construction phase but also once the site is open with the addition of up to 2000 vehicle movements daily, including a proposed increase in bus service, large utility and delivery vehicles.

Significantly Impacting the privacy at Windy Harbour.

Properties will devalue, especially those closest to the site.

The safeguarding of children also needs great consideration. They use Moss Lane to ride their bikes, play near the trees and on the grass verges. The large volume of traffic and size of vehicles from 7am until 9pm, 7 days a week, will mean this is no longer possible. Also, at weekends there are up to an additional 300 children compete their ponies on the land opposite the site, many arriving by walking and riding their ponies along Ulnes Walton Lane and Moss Lane.

The site itself fails to meet with the MoJ's own criteria.

It fails to meet the secondary requirement of having strategic access to public transport. A £500,000 contribution to increase the bus service proves that and its only for a 5 year period. It will be significantly overlooked with dwellings only 50m away.

It will also fail to meet the tertiary requirement of ease of recruitment. Chorley has a very low unemployment rate, therefore, recruitment will be from within a 40 mile radius. This will have a greater impact on the wider area for emissions at a time when the government are committing to reduce our carbon foot print.

Last month HMP Wymott had 6 new starters, only 3 remain working there.

This will be the only site in the UK with 3 prisons on one estate with over 3,700 inmates. The only other location with 3 adjacent prisons is in Buckinghamshire with a total of 2,012, this is less than the 2 prisons we have already.

There is a national need for additional prison places and the northwest has been allocated as an area. Time pressures should not force this project to go ahead at the expense of the residents of Ulnes Walton and the wider community.

The residents therefore urge the committee to turn down this application in favour of an alternative site, in an urban area, with better public transport networks and less of an impact on our environment.