

# Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council



Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re:** Concerns regarding the impact of new development (DC/22/3748/FUL Keightley Way) on Tuddenham St Martin.

Independent Highways review document reference number: 11220 TR Rv0

I am writing to you on behalf of the Tuddenham St Martin parish councillors to formally express concerns in regards to the development project proposed for Keightley Way. The concerns extensively discussed during the latest parish council on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 are in need of serious consideration, and the key points of concerns are as follow:

- **Lack of safe passage:**

The current development plan does not provide an adequate safe passage for pedestrians walking to and from the village centre which poses significant risks to the safety of our residents.

- **No safe route for school-aged children:**

There is no safe route for school-aged children to use public transport, leaving them with no option but travel by car. Not all parents are able to drive their children to school, especially those with disabilities. This not only increases traffic congestion but also contradicts our efforts to promote sustainable and independent travel for young children.

- **Non-compliance with inclusive mobility guidelines:**

The parish councillors have reviewed the independent Highways assessment by Brook Banks and believe that it does not comply with the Department for Transport's Inclusive Mobility Guide. Especially:

- **Section 3:** This section outlines the recommended walking distances for individuals with various disabilities. The current development plan does not meet these

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recommendations, which could significantly hinder the mobility of residents with disabilities.

- **Section 4:** This section emphasises the importance of accessible footways and footpaths. The current plans do not ensure the accessibility of footways and footpaths, thereby excluding a significant portion of our community from safe and independent travel.
- **Section 5:** 50% of the proposed dwellings are required under Policy SCLP5.8 of the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan to have wheelchair access, but there is insufficient access for wheelchair users to and from the development itself.

The parish councillors for Tuddenham St Martin, strongly requesting you to reconsider the current development plans to address these critical concerns. It is essential that the new development harmonises with the existing village infrastructure, and views the new proposed development in relation to the village as a whole and not separate entity, to ensure safety, accessibility and cohesion for all residents.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. We look forward to your response and are available for further discussions to collaboratively find solutions that benefit our entire village community.

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