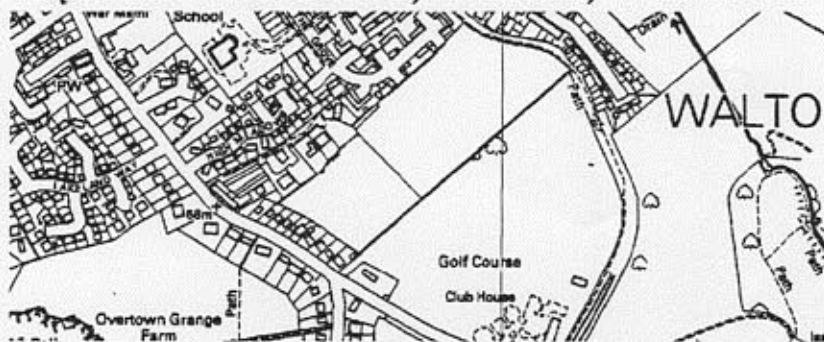


Proposed Gypsy / Travellers site at Land between the Balk and the Grove, Walton, Wakefield



What do we know about it? Last year a presentation was made to the Parish Council indicating that the landowner wants to secure a Retirement Village or private housing on the site but as his Retirement Village was refused, now he wants to apply for planning permission for Gypsy / Travellers accommodation (18 pitches). **NO APPLICATION HAS YET BEEN SUBMITTED BUT WE UNDERSTAND ONE IS BEING PREPARED.**

Who is proposing it? We understand that the land is managed by Hanover Developments and the development is being proposed by Green Planning Solutions.

Is it the same site as the Retirement Village that the Council refused?

YES. The Council refused planning permission for the Retirement Village in Sept 2010 and no appeal has been lodged. It was refused because it:-

- was 'unsustainable development on a greenfield site outside the settlement boundary of the village of Walton'.
- 'would fail to contribute to creating a mixed and balanced community'.
- 'would result in the development of a site which is defined as Protected Area of Search for Longer Term Development ... and would be a departure to the development plan'.

What has changed? NOTHING. The site is still a green field site outside of the settlement boundary designated as Protected Area of Search where development is prevented. The Council's new Local Development Framework proposes to retain the protection of the land to be re-assessed in the longer term because all housing needs can be met on other sites.

Does it comply with Planning Policy? NO. Government guidance says Gypsy / Travellers sites should be allocated in the Development Plan for such a use and on previously developed sites. It says they should have easy access to GP and other health services. None of these apply to the site in Walton. The reasons for refusal for the Retirement Village MUST therefore apply equally to the Gypsy / Travellers proposal.

How will it affect the Village? It will add to the pressure on existing services (schools etc), it will increase traffic on the roads especially outside Walton Junior School where congestion is already bad, and it will result in the loss of the wildlife on the fields.

Who are we? We are a group of concerned residents who are **OPPOSED** to these proposals.

What can YOU do about it? MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN TO THE PARISH AND YOUR WARD COUNCILLORS

Maureen Cummings - mcummings@wakefield.gov.uk

Albert Manifold - amanifold@wakefield.gov.uk

Susan Lodge - susanlodge@wakefield.gov.uk

Walton Parish Council Clerk - waltonclerk@btinternet.com

ATTEND YOUR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 5TH JULY TO VOICE YOUR OPIONION AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Please contact us on walton.action@yahoo.co.uk and 07527 101029