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Jean and David Hastings

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DJH/PER/JCS/10/12

10th December 2010

Inspector Roy Foster MA MRTPI
c/o The Programme Officer
Louise St.JohnHowe
Claypit Hall
FOXEARTH
Sudbury Suffolk CO10 7JD

Dear Sir,

Having attended several of the Public Enquiry Meetings with regard to the JCS in the past few weeks can I as a very old retired local businessman, corporate pilot and a Past Chairman of Broadland District Council, express my thanks to you and Inspector Mike Fox for giving us a very open minded enquiry as well as keeping everyone on track and on time.

However I must express my great disappointment at the continued arrogance of the GNDP with their refusal to recognise the view of the local residents who are affected by their proposals. Their abysmal consultation ever since they began this project seems to me to have flawed the entire JCS and destroyed our local democracy. I was delighted to see Councillors Boswell and Townley as well as Richard Williams, Peter Lanyon, Denise Carlo and the CPRE trying hard to get the views of the residents represented to you.

I have attended all the various public meetings called by our Parish Councils and at each one have come away ashamed to think that I was once Chairman of Broadland District Council as their arrogance and lack of interest in the views of the residents has been unbelievable. They seem much more interested in supporting the National developers. At the first meeting the Leader of Broadland District Council did make a promise of "No NDR, No Ecotown" but as we are seeing these promises now are worthless. The fist part of the Rackheath Ecotown, namely the Exemplar is now classed as a stand alone project and is proceeding on Grade 2 farmland not even linkked to the village and I fear that if there are no funds available in this very serious economic climate for the NDR, then the Ecotown will also be developed as a stand alone project without the vital infrastructure such as roads, water and sewage as well as the additional new wing required at the Norfolk & Norwich University hospital.

At the most recent public meeting in a packed village hall at Rackheath, when our Member of Parliament Keith Simpson and our Norfolk County Councillor James Carswell both spoke strongly against the JCS and the Ecotown, the District Council maintained their arrogant stance until a parishioner ended the meeting by proposing a vote of No Condence in the Broadland Council. This same Council has repeatedly tried to convince people that there is little opposition to their scheme, yet as we have seen the local residents, without the financial or staff resources of the GNDP, have already in their spare raised a petition of nearly 3,200 residents who are opposed to the urbanisation of our countryside.

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I was delighted to see at the meeting yesterday the paper REF101a concerning the proposal to use the "brownfield site" of the Royal Norwich Golf Club and the old hospital, as we have been pressing Broadland Council as part of the GNDP, to give an answer as to why this site is not used instead of the valuable farmland at Rackheath, as with the very high density urban style development being proposed at Rackheath this site could provide over 8,000 homes, all with good road access, close to the City centre, the Airport and the vital employment area of theUEA and Research Park.

I was also horrified to hear yesterday, Mr Knowles of Building Partnerships try to use the Climate change scientists at the John Innes Institute as part of his argument when they have expressed grave concern at the destruction of valuable food producing land at Rackheath. Also as a pilot who has operated out of Norwich Airport for many years I am still amazed that developers are proposing to place wind turbines close to the extended centre line of the main runway at this international airport.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hastings', written in a cursive style.

David.J.Hastings MBE