Mr Nathan Slater

Senior Policy Planner Planning Department

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Dock Office, Barry CF63 4RT Your ref:**2020/00003/PAC 28 June 2020**

3 July 2020

Dear Mr Slater

**Pre-Application Consultation (PAC): proposed rebuilding of St Nicholas Church-in-Wales Primary School to accommodate an extra 108 pupils**

I wish to oppose the above proposed development. This consultation has only come to my attention via an email sent by you to a neighbour on 24/06/20 that he kindly forwarded. In that email you stated that 3 site notices had been displayed in the village, but residents may have missed these because of the lockdown. I reproduce below a copy of my letter of 14/07/19 to your colleague Paula Ham for your attention. The council should, at this time especially, inform directly all residents potentially affected by this proposal.

I object to the proposed redevelopment school on the following grounds:

1. It is not necessary to expand the school by this amount to meet the needs of Vale of Glamorgan residents. Children are already transported from the City of Cardiff to make up sufficient numbers to make the school viable, and it would be far more environmentally friendly and safe for children from the new houses recently built in St Nicholas to constitute that number, so that children living in Cardiff should no longer need to be transported in such numbers to a school far away from their homes (see Tables 5-4 and 5.5). Expansion by 108 places is clearly for the purpose of transporting more children from the City of Cardiff. Expansion of the St Fagan’s Church in Wales primary school or others nearer their homes would be a far more practical solution, and would reduce the number of car and bus journeys required to transport children living in the City of Cardiff to attend school.
2. The village constitutes a conservation area and has very narrow roads that cannot be widened. Many parts of the roads around the church and school areas do not permit 2 vehicles to pass safely, thus preventing 2-way traffic flow. It is already highly congested at school opening and closing times with cars and pedestrians. Driving to and from my home at these times is a nightmare as cars are parked all over the place, making the negotiation of a safe passage on the road through the unruly mess of traffic almost impossible. It is further complicated by the movement of parents and children on the road and who sometimes run out from in front of and behind parked cars. There is already a situation of a bad accident, possibly fatal, waiting to happen. The Transport Assessment doesn’t refer to the parking of parents’ cars all over the village and the current chaos in the village for an hour twice a day around school opening and closing times. Their normal practice is for parents to park wherever they can – usually obstructing the road – and walk their children to or from school before returning to their car and battling through the heavy gridlocked traffic to try and get out to the A48. Further expansion of this traffic and the road rage occasionally witnessed could very likely lead to accidents that the Vale of Glamorgan council would be directly responsible for making more likely if permitted.

Please be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of this e-mail.

Yours faithfully

Dr Paul Williams

11 Ger-y-llan

St Nicholas CF5 6SY

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St Nicholas

CF5 6SY 14 July 2019

Ms Paula Ham

Director of Learning and Skills

The Vale of Glamorgan Council Civic Offices

Holton Road

Barry CF63 4RU

Dear Ms Ham

**Objection to the proposed expansion of St Nicholas School**

I attach a copy of my letter of 14 July to the Headteacher of St Nicholas Primary School that is self-explanatory. It seems as if this proposal has been made and progressed without any regard to its effect on the residents of the village of St Nicholas, who are already greatly inconvenienced by the lack of proper, safe traffic arrangements for children arriving at and leaving the school, and with seeming disregard for the children’s safety.

Can you please ensure that I am kept fully informed of the progress of all stages of this proposal by the Vale of Glamorgan Council?

Yours sincerely

Dr Paul Williams