

Beech House
Well Lane
St Nicholas
CF5 6SG

7 Sept 2020

Miss Jessica King
Case Officer
Planning Department
The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Dock Office,
Barry CF63 4RT

2020/00874/RG3 -

**ST NICHOLAS CHURCH IN WALES PRIMARY SCHOOL – PROPOSED
REPLACEMENT SCHOOL INCLUDING ADDITIONAL NURSERY PROVISION
AND ASSOCIATED WORKS**

Dear Miss King

I wish to object to the subject proposal. I know that other St Nicholas residents have highlighted in detail where the proposal fails to comply with certain aspects of defined policy. In addition to drawing attention to the proposal's contravention of Policy MD2 my objections are based, primarily, on the following serious implications that the proposal present for those of us who reside in St Nicholas:

- There will, undoubtedly, be traffic implications as a result of the school's increased capacity.
- The access to St Nicholas CIW Primary School is by way of a narrow entry road. From the A48 there are 3 ways of approaching the school, all of which require vehicles having to negotiate the narrow, single carriageway lanes through the main part of the village.
- Currently, with the estimated 30-40 vehicles that arrive in the village at the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times there is very serious traffic congestion. The narrow, single carriageway routes through the village, which are unavoidable, become regular chokepoints. The roads are narrow and with a car parked on one side there is insufficient room for another vehicle to pass.
- During these drop-off and pick-up periods, the lack of any meaningful parking facilities in the School results in visiting vehicles being parked all through the village, often using the grass verges in front of the church causing damage to the grass and the boundary posts.

- Residents, driving into the village at these times to access their properties very regularly face considerable delay as a result of the number of parents'/guardians' vehicles parked in the narrow lanes. Residents attempting to leave the village by car at these times face similar challenges.
- For the most part there are no pavements in the village and none in the very narrow lanes that access the school and often during these peak drop-off and pick-up times there are inevitable conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.
- Commercial vehicles arriving and departing the village via the A48 at these times often face the impossible task of negotiating the narrow village roadways which are littered with parked cars.
- Of much more significance is the disastrous outcome which will, undoubtedly, result one day from the failure of an emergency vehicle to access a property in the village during one of these periods of serious traffic congestion.

The foregoing is, basically, the scenario that exists with the current size of the school. I have no difficulty in accepting that there may be a perceived need to increase the capacity of the school. However, without the provision of dedicated parking spaces the implications for the village of St Nicholas resulting from an increase from 30-40 to around 119 vehicles needing to access the village twice a day, would be very serious. The likelihood of an incident involving a vehicle and pedestrians would be increased significantly as would the disruption to St Nicholas residents. Moreover, to re-emphasize the point, the very real potential for there to be a disastrous outcome resulting from the failure of an emergency vehicle to react in a timely manner to a village emergency cannot and must not be ignored. You must be aware that ultimate responsibility for any such incident would rest with the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

As a 'Stop Press' you may wish to note that on 7 September 2020 one St Nicholas resident attempting to drive out of the village at around the time when parents had arrived by car to pick up their children took 23 minutes to drive the 200 metres from his property to the A48 – and this was with the school at its present size.

Please take particular note of my objection.

MR MPA O'HAGAN