

TDCS comments about Planning Application 16/00833/OUT for New Row, Drayton Bassett - 19th September 2016

TDCS submitted the following comments to Lichfield District Council on 19th September 2016 regarding the application to erect 5 houses between New Row and Drayton Bassett Church.

**RE. PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 16/00833/OUT
5 HOUSES & PARKING at REAR of 1-7, DRAYTON LANE, DRAYTON BASSETT (NEW ROW)**

The Tamworth and District Civic Society (TDCS) objects to the above application and submits the following comments and observations.

- Drayton Bassett falls within the geographic area of interest of TDCS. We are concerned to see the conservation and enhancement of the village's built and natural heritage and the maintenance of the historic character of the village. We seek to ensure that new development is not detrimental to that, offers good quality design and construction, and is appropriate for its location and surroundings - both from an aesthetic viewpoint and practical considerations such as infrastructure, access, traffic management, and impact on neighbouring properties.
- We share and support the concerns and objections of the Drayton Bassett Parish Council to this above application, with regard to location, design, access, parking, traffic management, and infrastructure issues, expressed on behalf of itself and local residents.
- We feel that this application is inappropriate and detrimental in this key location between the Grade II* Parish Church of St. Peter and the attractive Victorian gothic terrace of New Row. New Row was built for estate workers by the Peel family. The church is of national significance and repute as the burial place of the C19th Prime Minister and Police Force founder, Sir Robert Peel, 2nd baronet (1788-1850) of Drayton Manor, together with his wife, parents, son, grandson and great grandson. The application site is at the historic core of Drayton Bassett and must be treated with absolute care, sensitivity and thoughtfulness. The negative impact of this proposed development on the setting, appearance and character both of the Church and New Row would, in our view, be significant.
- TDCS feels that there is potential for a conservation area to be established in the historic centre of Drayton Bassett and for buildings to be added to the Local List (Drayton has not currently been assessed for either a conservation area or a Local List) or even for further buildings in the village to be recommended for national listing by Historic England. New Row and the application site would be significant for such considerations. We therefore object to development in the meantime that may detract from, or undermine, or even prevent such potential protection and enhancement of Drayton Bassett's rich heritage.

We trust that you will include these comments, and our objection to this application, in your report to the Planning Committee. Thank you.