



**To: Warwick District Council, Planning and Highway Departments,
Development Policy Manager, Development Services**

The East of Church Lane site (Site 1) is the single most beautiful part of the village of Radford Semele.

It has existed almost untouched since the Middle Ages – building on it will remove a part of the Village enjoyed by Villagers and tourists.

The Village Fields are the last remaining open space of its kind within the village providing an important balance and place of beauty to balance housing development both historic and that planned for the future.

Building will destroy the setting of St Nicholas Church, a Grade II listed building that has been a focus for village lives for hundreds of years. Views from the Church would be devastated with views over open countryside replaced by a view on a high density housing estate.

The Church has only just been restored after nearly 5 years and is beginning to re-congregate and be utilised as a wedding and funeral centre. In conjunction with English Heritage, the vista to the Church from Southam road was a key aspect considered in the rebuild of the church with specific requirements to maintain a replicated elevation during restoration. This elevation will largely be lost if development is allowed and will mean expense was made to preserve a view that will no longer be seen or needed. That calls into question why such a demand was made at all.

Traffic chaos will result from widened roads, new traffic lights or roundabouts at the junction of Church Lane, School Lane and Southam Road. Changes will be required to provide access to the site that will turn the village into a car park at peak times.

If Housing proceeds new roads will need to be built across the Church Fields. The open view of the countryside will be replaced with traffic queues and the vista into the Church will be destroyed by enlarged road and by streetlamps.

Development in these open fields will remove the identity of the Village – the Church creates a perception of us as a Village. Hiding it behind a housing estate will make us appear as just another suburb of Leamington Spa.

Building will take away the beautiful setting of the Village Pub. The White Lion is enjoyed by villagers and tourists attracted by its setting opposite the Church Fields. The setting will be lost, placing jobs and the future of the White Lion at risk. Pubs are closing across the country – why put ours at risk of in turn itself becoming another housing estate?

The village will naturally expand over the years. Why build on a place of beauty in the centre of the Village that can never be replaced when other areas will be built on later?

People across Warwickshire recognise and define Radford Semele by the beauty of

the Church Fields and open countryside. Replacing the Church Fields with a housing estate will remove this Village identity.

The site to the East of Church Lane is not best place for access to local village services and amenities and is separated from the main village by the busy A425 road. Being divorced from the village will result in widespread use of cars to get to and from this site further exacerbating traffic chaos and pollution levels along the stretch of road near to the Church.

No one in the Village was consulted on this site and our democratically elected Parish Council was ignored. The site was imposed on the people of the Village by those who do not live here or understand our way of life.

The Council must seek alternative ways to provide additional housing in Radford Semele.

Stop the plans to promote the beautiful fields ("Site 1 East Of Church Lane") as a housing estate. This land provides a setting for St Nicholas Church, a medieval Grade II listed building in Radford Semele.

I want the Warwick District Council (WDC) to reject the Church Fields as their "Preferred Development option" for building a housing estate in Radford Semele as put forward in their Local Plan Consultation 25th November 2013-20 January 2014.

I want WDC to place the Church Fields into an "Area of Restraint" and look at alternative ways to provide for additional housing within Radford Semele.

I support fully the wishes of this campaign petition.

Sincerely,

[Signatures Below]