**Planning Committee Update Sheet 18 December 2019**

**Item 6 – 2 Arkholme Drive, Longton**

**07/2019/1209/FUL**

**Representations**

A further 14 letters of representation have been received including one in support. The objections mainly reiterate those already received and can be summarised as follows:

* Moved to Longton to bring our young family up in a safe and secure environment;
* Detrimental impact on lives of families and an adverse effect on the character, feel and safety of the area;
* If approved, may lead to other similar applications being made and granted;
* Devalue property;
* Anti-social behaviour;
* Longton has an elderly population;
* Refer to the use as a ‘hostel’ where residents will reside for a short period of time with consistent changes to visitors;
* Neighbourhood watch scheme would be redundant due to unfamiliar faces being overlooked and reported as suspicious;
* Not the right environment for residents of such an institution;
* Noise;
* Affect wellbeing of young children living in the area;
* Covenant in Deeds states that there should be no business use allowed;
* Applicants from the outset have misled neighbours;
* House was purchased surreptitiously;
* Out of area children will be more disruptive by nature and unsettled and this cannot be considered to be ‘caring’ and strongly points the finer at ignorance and selfishness;
* Amenities and standard of living of nearby residents will be adversely affected;
* No guarantee the age group of the children;
* No consultation has taken place with the local residents;
* Council appear to ignore the correct rules of Planning, regarding consultation and give way to any application that they feel can benefit themselves without consideration to the local home owners;
* Will be a continuous flow of vehicles coming and going due to shift changes throughout the day and night;
* Lack of parking;
* Policing of Longton is non-existent;
* Lack of transparency as to what the applicants wish to use the property for;
* Property only suitable for a family home;
* If front garden planned as a parking area, then the small rear garden would not provide sufficient space for any form of communal recreational activities;
* Access to property is very constricted;
* Presence of children with ‘challenging behaviours’ would impact greatly on a vulnerable section of our community;
* Moved to semi-rural Longton 27 years ago because of the peace and tranquillity and not to have something like this on our doorstep;

Letter in support comments as follows:

* These looked after children have as much right as any of us to live in a nice area;
* Several people lodged objections just because of scaremongering and are not really bothered;
* Hope the application is looked upon favourably and don’t bow to this nimbyism;

Representation has been made by a Ward Councillor raising concerns on behalf of residents and requesting that if approved, conditions are imposed to alleviate residents’ concerns. This again reiterates comments already received in respect of:

* Overlooking/loss of privacy;
* Noise and disturbance resulting from use;
* People already enquiring about CCTV as anxiety levels are increasing;
* Traffic generation;
* Parking, loading and turning;
* Visitors will park further down the road where there is no pavement;
* Character and appearance of the area
* Insufficient consultation time and awareness given to residents;
* Parish Council had insufficient time to respond;
* Consultation organised by Cherish was limited, several only heard ‘word of mouth’.
* Cherish were seemingly unaware of covenants within their deeds;
* Dispute that covenants are not a material planning consideration as it would set a precedent which could affect the character of the neighbourhood;
* No facilities, amenities, hospital, local activities for these children to get involved in;
* Considering forming a residents association and seeking legal advice;