Dear Ms Pravin,

**Objection to planning application ref S/3566/17/FL on land east of Fowlmere Road**

We are very concerned about the proposed grain store development on Fowlmere road (Ref: S/3566/17/FL). There are several aspects of this proposal which pose negative effects on the village of Foxton.

**Traffic**

There will be an increase in heavy vehicle traffic through Foxton village as a result of the proposed grain store development on Fowlmere Road. This will cause:

- noise pollution
- air pollution from increased numbers of diesel fuelled heavy vehicles
- damage to village roads, which are ill equipped to deal with large numbers of heavy vehicles
- danger to pedestrians and other road users due to narrow, bendy roads and blind corners
- risk of damage to property, such as cars parked on village roads.

It would seem more sensible for the grain store to be located in closer proximity to main roads that have access to the M11 which would avoid traffic having to go through the small village of Foxton.

**Aesthetic Impact**
Foxton is surrounded by rolling countryside which forms a major part of the village's character. To construct a large grain store in the middle of an open field would create a significant eyesore and would be visible from miles around.

We are unaware of why a different site for the grain store could not be found in a less aesthetically detrimental location. It is our understanding that the farm owns many hectares of land, and a suggestion that other, less disruptive sites could not be found is somewhat difficult to believe.

We are baffled by how this application has reached this stage in the planning process, given that the development of a much smaller grain store on Fowlmere Road in application S/0374/06/F was rejected on grounds of aesthetic impact. The pre application advice given by Karen Pell-Coggins to Beacon Planning on 11th April 2016 for the current proposed grain store does not list any relevant planning history. Furthermore, the letter erroneously claims there are "a number of existing agricultural buildings" on Fowlmere Road. The current planning application is therefore based on false information.

Green Belt encroachment

We understand that the land east of Fowlmere Road is Green Belt land and therefore development is supposed to be tightly controlled. By building a large grain store on Green Belt land, it sets a precedent for further developments, which would ruin the character of the rural village of Foxton.

Operation of the Grain Store

The activity of the grain store, particularly at harvest time stands to cause significant disruption to Foxton, especially for nearby houses.

Grain dryers will produce significant noise pollution, which will carry to nearby dwellings.

Conclusion

There may be some economic drivers for the farm to move the grain store to its proposed location on Fowlmere Road, but this should not be at the detriment to the village of Foxton. Thrilplow residents support the removal of their current smaller grain store. This serves as an indication of the negative impact caused by having a grain store near a village environment.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. J. Frake and Dr. H. Boswell