

Mr Jamie Wilkes
C/o Straight Mile Farm,



11th June 2019

Dear Mr Singleton,

I am writing to you with the full consent of my parents Mr & Mrs J Wilkes who are resident at the above address.

They have lived at Straight Mile Farm since 1957 and besides myself have a daughter who is still a permanent resident and has been since her birth in 1962.

My parents land at the moment is being used as grazing land for cattle and also for horses. The income from this supplements their pensions. This income would be lost if their home was to be fragmented by the WMI.

This 10 acres of land has always had livestock on it and provides a valuable space which would otherwise be lost as part of the greenbelt.

Mr & Mrs Wilkes feel that they have had pressure placed upon them to accept an offer of cash for their property, being pestered by telephone and letter. They are both in their 80's and are not very mobile, my mother also [REDACTED], they also are [REDACTED] so were unable to attend the meetings to raise their objections. This has resulted in them being confused and feeling that they have no choice but to accept WMI offer when they do not wish to relocate at this late change in their life. This is definitely affecting their health with sleepless nights and confusion.

Four Ashes Ltd have said they will pay agricultural price for the land but then it will not be used for agricultural purposes only for industrial use. In the meeting of 05/06/19 the sum of £24,000 per hectare was mentioned whereas industrial land is priced at £600,000 per hectare.

FAL have put forward an offer to purchase Straight Mile Farm at 110% of market value with agreed option terms provided at the time were that while the surrounding land could be acquired at any time after the WMI commenced, Straight Mile Farm could not be acquired during my parents lifetimes. In return for accepting this offer a payment of £15,000 would be paid as an option fee. My parents have not accepted this offer as their land would be lost and a bunding placed within eye view of the main rear windows of the house effectively stopping any income from grazing.

There are also vast quantities of sand and gravel which has not been quarried beneath the 10 acres of their land, the value of this would be substantial. The sand and gravel all around my parents land (side, front & rear) has already been removed

The barns surrounding the house also have planning permission on them for development and this also has not been taken into consideration.

Mr & Mrs Wilkes [REDACTED] and we as a family feel that the stress of this possible development is definitely making things a lot worse.
I hope that you take the time to give their plight careful consideration as they do not wish to move from their family home of 62 years.

Kind regards,

Jamie Wilkes (Mr)