

Wickersley Community Centre,

286 Bawtry Road, Wickersley, Rotherham. S66 1JJ

Clerk: Carol J Lavell

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**Letter to Rachel Overfield, RMBC**

Dear Rachel,

**Re: Wickersley Neighbourhood Plan - Response to representation by Paul Pickering to the proposed amendment of Policy GS2 Local Green Space with regard to the boundary of Wickersley Park**

Could you please send this letter to the Chief Examiner with regard to the Parish Council’s response to the above representation.

Wickersley Parish Council do not understand the statement by Mr Pickering that the site in question was hailed by local councillors as the ‘new’ centre of Wickersley when first developed. Indeed, the location of the main community building serving Wickersley was moved to its current location on Bawtry Road over 10 years ago. It’s location adjacent to the district centre consolidated the ‘centre’ of Wickersley so that most services required by the local community can be found in one place. In contrast, the former village hall site subject to the proposed amendment, is not well related to the centre of Wickersley and less well suited to community-based development of the type proposed by the respondent.

Mr Pickering suggests that the site could be used for a number of purposes, all of which involve development and would not therefore merit the land being included as part of a Green Space designation. It is also relevant that this site is not designated for community uses in the Rotherham Local Plan. Furthermore, there is no funding available for any of the uses suggested by the objector. It would therefore be more appropriate for the site to potentially be developed for housing to enable the Parish Council to fund other identified much needed improvements within the parish.

Yours sincerely,

Carol Lavell

Clerk to Wickersley Parish Council