

Chair and other members
Save the Seven Cornfields Campaign Committee

16 February 2021

Dear Chair and other members,

Re: Save the Seven Cornfields Campaign

I hope that this letter finds you well. Thank you for your update about the Save the Seven Cornfields campaign. I continue to support and be inspired by your fantastic work to protect this precious land.

Even before I became an MP, I campaigned in favour of a brownfield first policy. I vowed to raise awareness about our desire to see this lovely piece of land preserved and protected for future generations. I continue to wholeheartedly disagree with the policy to develop it for residential use.

As part of my campaign, I was delighted to bring the Mayor of the West Midlands Andy Street to see the site in person, and I took the campaign all the way to Boris Johnson in London. We all agreed that brownfield sites should be given first consideration when it comes to future planning policy decisions.

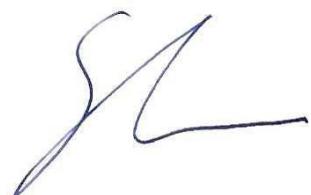
The plans for the Seven Cornfields emerged from the need to consider every piece of land that could be legally built on as part of the Black Country Plan. I was disappointed that the Seven Cornfields was put forward for development as part of this, and I immediately got to work to oppose the idea. I am glad that South Staffordshire District Council has already revised its stance on the Seven Cornfields, and I hope that our council – the City of Wolverhampton Council – will reconsider its position on this.

The Plan itself is becoming severely delayed, and I know that Ministers at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have written to local councils in the Black Country to make them aware of their concerns about how long this process has taken to complete. I am now in discussions with Ministers about the speed and progress of the Black Country Plan. We are discussing what more we can do to ensure that our constituents have clarity about what is and is not included in the plan.

In my role as an MP, I have made protecting our natural environment one of my key priorities and I have plans to deliver on this. In my meetings with the City of Wolverhampton Council, I have raised, at length, very real concerns about plans to build on the Seven Cornfields. I strongly believed – as I continue to do now – that this proposal should not have even been included in the consultation that was originally put forward. This still remains my strong view, and I will continue to campaign against it. As always, I am very happy to work with any concerned constituents on this important issue, and I would welcome your feedback on what more we can do together to save the Seven Cornfields.

Thank you again for having taken the time to contact me, it is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Anderson MP