

GNLP0382: Land north of Chameryhall Lane, South Walsham

The Highway Authority continues to support allocation of GNLP0382 site if it is accessed via the SWA1 site allocation and Burlingham Road.

The following bullet points set out why a new access at Chameryhall Lane to GNLP0382 is not considered suitable:

- The B1140 Chameryhall Lane is classified in Norfolk's Route Hierarchy as a Main Distributor Road and is subject to the national speed limit.
- Access at this location would result in increased slowing, stopping and turning movements at a Main Distributor Road, presenting a safety concern.
- The promoters have supplied a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit (SA1) of the proposed access scheme. The SA1 discusses a 163m visibility splay based on 85%ile speeds. The observed speeds have not been supplied to the Highways Authority.
- Visibility splay lengths are defined in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB - CD123 referencing CD109) as sight stopping distances (SSD) in steps. A 163m SSD is not defined in CD109, the next step after 160m (85kph) is 215m for 100kph. As the submission suggests 85%iles exceed 85kph, it is questioned whether 163m splays are appropriate and it is not clear 215m splays are deliverable.
- The SA1 highlights that a 163m visibility splay would conflict with an existing layby to the northwest.
- The layby also services an existing field access which, albeit occasionally, will result in large, slow-moving vehicles conflicting with other users of the road.
- From the sketch included in the SA1, it is estimated that the centrelines of the proposed access and Burlingham Road would be approximately 65m apart.
- A site access at this location would result in slowing, stopping and turning movements at closely associated locations and could cause confusion to other users of the highway, resulting in increased collision risk.
- The proposal also includes a footway connection via Chameryhall Lane to Burlingham Road. The SA1 highlights that due to limited carriageway width, the footway is likely to be subject to parking at Burlingham Road. The verge at that location is high, slopes steeply and could not be used for footway construction; carriageway narrowing would be required compounding the identified highway safety concern.

The Highway Authority therefore considers that a new access at Chameryhall Lane to GNLP0382 would be detrimental to highway safety and objects to the proposed allocation being accessed in that way, particularly as a safer alternative is available.