

# [Witton Gilbert] CONTACT US - ldtflj@gmail.com

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to terrycrozier

**Name:** Judith & Brian Brown

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**Comment:** I have a map of Witton Gilbert dated 24 March 1887 . The Front Street is clearly shown, incidentally so is our house "The Fold." This ancient street thoroughly deserves the label of "Witton Gilbert Heritage Zone" in the Neighbourhood Plan, and thoroughly deserves to be protected along with the green space behind it. I can't see the logic of building in that area, of all places in the village that could have been chosen. As recently as March, I have discovered, a new Settlement Boundary and Green belt have been created/revised, which appears to have removed the green belt status from behind the Front Street. I don't remember that being made clear at any of the public consultations. Why? To facilitate the site H2 on the Housing Allocations to be built on I suppose. This farmland was always classed as Green Belt before. Modern houses will not sit well with the old stone cottages in the Heritage Zone, and would be more appropriately sited in the newer areas in the village. You want the village centre to be up there, and have even moved the War Memorial up there too, so it follows the new housing should be somewhere around this village centre, not shoved down the old village out of the way, surely? Not too long ago, a By-Pass was created through the green belt to remove traffic from the Front Street, because of the noise, pollution, and traffic hazards. So it doesn't make any sense to now increase traffic, with extra parking problems and all the rest, by building up to 70 houses (140 extra cars) moving around the village. It defeats the whole purpose of having a By-Pass in the first place! It would be better to stop through traffic (apart from buses) to stop the "Rat Run" of cars racing to beat the queue to the roundabout. We are not the only ones totally mystified by the logic of this proposal to go into our Neighbourhood plan, and totally oppose it. I wonder too, about the noise that houses sited there would have to endure. I know from experience, being the nearest home to the by-Pass, what that's like. Despite double glazing, the traffic can still be heard indoors, visitors remark on it; and you can't sit in the garden very long because of the volume of noise-and traffic is increasing all the time. Those houses/gardens would be in just as noisy a location-would they sell? Really, this is the worst place you could think of in our historic village to put a housing estate- however prettily they'd be presented. The neighbourhood plan as it is will never get our support. Please reconsider this irrational idea.

Time: 30th June 2016 at 10:48 pm

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