

Provide 17 outdoor stalls & 5 indoor stalls for weekly (Sunday car boot sale) at Transition Town Forres Bogton rd Forres

Local review ref - LR122
LA ref - 14/01905/APP

Response to representations to the LRB

Our responses to representations remain with no alterations apart from
LR122 - 20150507 - letter from Transport Scotland - further representation pdf

with regards to -

"This was discussed at some length with the Council's planning officers and on 22 January 2015 Transport Scotland confirmed these points in an email.

"Our main concern is that, while we were willing to accept the occasional disruption to trunk road traffic caused by a monthly market (as per 09/01722/APP (NE/176/2009)) we are more concerned about this occurring weekly. However, even a monthly market would have been unacceptable without the access being widened to minimise the delays to traffic turning into the site from the trunk road (hence the suggested condition in 2009).

With regards to the application for a weekly market, Transport Scotland is, as previously stated, concerned about the frequency disruption is likely to occur to traffic on the trunk road but is willing to work with the Applicant to find a mutually acceptable solution. This may be a one-way system as suggested in my early response or perhaps a "left turn in" only system whereby traffic from the west would pass the site, turn around at the nearby roundabout and enter the site by turning left. This would remove the possibility of a right turn queue forming on the trunk road and its associated risk to traffic"

and

"Further discussion followed between Transport Scotland, Council planning officers and the applicant when it was identified that the applicant was not prepared to implement this alteration to the junction. This was confirmed in an email to the Council's planning officers on the 17 March 2015.

"Transport Scotland is of the opinion that, if a "left-in / left-out" junction arrangement cannot be implemented we would recommend refusal of the application.

If the applicant had informed us of his/her final plan when initially notified this situation would not have arisen as we would have asked for this arrangement at the start instead of the access widening originally sought."

and

"However, Transport Scotland would advise that we would be prepared to enter into discussions with the applicant to try and identify a way forward with this proposed application."

I can confirm that Transition Town Forres would be willing and eager to implement a Left in / Left out junction arrangement with appropriate signage to improve road safety on this section of the A96 & avoid both any queuing on the A96 of East bound traffic turning right into the site & any dangerous manoeuvres by traffic crossing the Westbound lane while exiting the site to travel East.

this would improve road safety for all events hosted by Transition Town Forres & Forresian Firs.

Discussions have begun with Transport Scotland & they have intimated that this junction arrangement would be acceptable.

Transition Town Forres respectfully requests that the LRB approve this appeal with a requirement to implement a Left in / Left out junction arrangement on the A96 Forres bypass to meet standards set by Transport Scotland.

L Chas Rodger

Community Councillor Forres

Trustee Transition Town Forres - reg charity no - SC040314