

New traveller site behind the Golf House at Heath

Wakefield Council are pursuing a proposal to develop an additional 23 traveller pitches and 6 transit pitches, bringing the total number of pitches at Heath to 61. The Parish Council have consulted with representatives of the existing site and the local community and found virtually no support for the scheme. As the new site resides on a flood plain, in green belt land and adjacent to another planning application for a 30 unit energy storage site, we feel this is not the correct place for this development. In fact, with the number of sites we already have, this parish is not a suitable choice.

Wakefield Council continue to try and drive this initiative through, even against unanimous local objection, to the extent they have approved the purchase of an historically important property in the hope that this purchase will alleviate a public enquiry because owning this property would allow them to lift a covenant that prevents any development. When the City Fields development began, Wakefield Council commandeered a piece of common land to allow the project to commence, this legally had to be replaced with a similar amount of land nearby and registered as common land. The land offered was purchased, but no proof was seen that this land was registered as common, the council are now claiming that this land is in their ownership, which will allow them to develop it into a traveller site.

Joe Fisher
Warmfield-cum-Heath Parish Council