

We live in a beautiful old village set in beautiful countryside –Let us keep it this way.

I have lived opposite the John Sleeth Centre for close to twenty years and have enjoyed the sight of it out of my living room window every day. It has been there for about a hundred and forty years. Now when there is talk of demolishing the John Sleeth as well as the old carriage building in which we house our museum I am sickened and saddened. Demolishing old brick buildings is terrible for the environment as well as for the historic ambiance of our village. We need to maintain our historic buildings and our country side and environment.

This brings me to the question of the urban sprawl spreading into our countryside along the 139 south – I am speaking of the “minor derogation” that looks “major” and is an eyesore. What was once a lovely wetland with beautiful old trees with branches hanging over the river has been filled with large ugly buildings that are completely out of character with Sutton. This development was called a “minor derogation.” It should never have been allowed.

If there is a housing shortage – lets us be creative about it. New buildings can be beautiful and tasteful and fit into our Sutton landscape and town. For example, The Taproom of L’abordage, the Brouerie and the new Condos that have been built into an old quarry all enhance Sutton.

Once we have made our new urban plan we need to stick to it so that demolishing our old buildings and building new ones that do

not fit our environment are a thing of the past. Our new town plan needs to be flexible but **STRONG** so that we do not need to have any more “minor derogations”.

I would like to thank our new Mayor and counsellors for your approach and care about Sutton and its heritage and its environment.