

Re: Shingle Place Hill

Patrice Murphy @ Manchester Essex Conservation Trust <pmurphy@mect.org>

Fri 6/17/2022 3:22 PM

To: David Davis <ddavid7777@comcast.net>

Cc: Sarah Mellish <ZBACHairperson@manchester.ma.us>

Awesome! I look forward to hearing you, and I encourage you to also send as a letter to the editor....for a broader audience. I can send you the links.

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On Jun 17, 2022, at 3:12 PM, David Davis <ddavid7777@comcast.net> wrote:

To: Zoning Board of Appeals, Manchester, MA

From: David Davis, Kings Court, Essex, MA

Due to limitations of my iPad, I was unable to make the following comments at your meeting last Wednesday evening, June 15, 2022:

The environmental report made scant reference to the proposed blasting of the hill. Yes, the final contours of the site post blasting were mentioned with respect to runoff but (1) no reference was made as to the very process of blasting and what Best Management Practices (BMP) are to be implemented to protect groundwater, adjacent Town wells and wildlife. Cumulative effects definitely pertains here.

I encourage this Board to Google "blasting ground water" to find numerous references to BEM standards. Those from New Hampshire and Vermont are a good beginning.

(2) Please insist upon a Performance Bond. However remote, please envision the prospect of Mr.Engler encountering financial setbacks - such things happen - and abandoning the project with a shattered hill a lasting reminder of intentions unrealized.

(3) I have lived with my wife in Essex for more than 50 years. I am a walker/hiker. Our property at Kings Court abuts the Manchester-Essex Woods. Like so many others, we have relied on those woods for solace, recreation, exercise and the sheer joy that nature provides.

(4) I urge one and all to appreciate that the Manchester-Essex Woods are on **ASSET** - not just any asset but a rare and irreplaceable asset. That they do not appear as such on the Towns' books of account is a woeful deficiency in our way of accounting for many things we cherish and risk taking for granted.

(5) Side by side, we are asked to envision the startling juxtaposition of protected land of incalculable value and the proposed development. No harmonious pairing here. Far from it as the proposed project overwhelms it surroundings. It saps the protected land of one of its most important attributes- uninterrupted connection to the natural world.

(6) And, of course, the project is isolated from the local community resources with which so much of the two communities, Manchester and Essex, identify.

(7) Each town, Manchester and Essex (and I suspect most cities and towns these days) have put forward studies and plans emphasizing the need to enhance spaces for people to walk, bicycle and patronize businesses and services. The proposed project, located at an already hazardous junction of roadways, moves sharply in the opposite direction away from such objectives and for that reason alone merits your opposition.

Thank you

A. David Davis