

St Ouen,

To whom it may concern.

I am writing in support of the rezoning of part of field O622 to allow for the provision of sheltered accommodation for the over 55's in the Parish of St Ouen.

The Parish has over many years been a provider for over 55's accommodation and during that time many of our local elderly people with close ties to the Parish have benefited from what many regard as an essential provision. We see this project as an important addition to the current facilities and a continuation of the Parish's commitment to the community.

The Parish has already undertaken three previous developments over the past 30 years and experience to date has shown that this form of housing is much in demand. Furthermore St Ouen Parishioners' have also recognised the need and always supported the Parish in the provision of sheltered housing, which remains the same today.

I acknowledge the Island must protect green fields and where possible limit development to existing or brown field sites, however St Ouen is predominantly a rural Parish with a lack of suitable sites able to deliver the type of development the Parish wishes to undertake.

For several decades the Planning department has approved the development of first time buyer homes and sheltered accommodation on open land, within the general area of the Parish hall and community centre. We now have a thriving village with a range of businesses supporting our local community including a Doctors surgery, pharmacy, hairdresser, local pub and food hall together with access to good transport links.

In addition our Parish Hall and community centre are well used and offer a range of activities for both young and old. These include senior citizens lunches, coffee mornings, markets and evening entertainment throughout the year.

More recently a village green was established next to the Parish Hall designed to enhance the area and provide safe passage for young people and the more elderly of our community to visit neighbours and nearby facilities.

Mindful of the need for more sheltered housing, considerable thought has been given to where new homes could be built and in particular, how any new development could fit in with existing facilities.

After spending much time looking for a suitable site, field 622 was identified as the preferred option. It is on the edge of existing development, within walking distance of

the Village area and close to shops and other facilities all of which can be reached by using established footpaths.

Although I accept, those fortunate enough to already own homes in our Parish may wish to preserve open fields close to where they live, there is a need to provide suitable homes for those of more mature years, in order to free up existing First time buyer homes for the younger generation to occupy. This will become increasingly important as the Island addresses the significant challenges associated with an aging society.

The Parish have a great opportunity to not only provide suitable accommodation for individuals who wish to down size but also indirectly support young families who wish to live in the Parish they were raised.

I hope that you will support the project and allow St Ouen to provide additional homes for the over 55's on part of field 622.

Yours sincerely,

James Reed. Deputy of St Ouen.