

Dear Sir,

I am writing to express my disgust at the plans to build a new road through the nature reserve in Norton, Stoke-on-Trent.

This conservation area is home to many hundreds of species of wildlife, including a number of rare birds and wild otters, a sight that is very rarely seen in our countryside. I understand that the road is important to the businesses in the local area, but surely this oasis of natural wonder is undeniably more important?

Many locals enjoy walking in the nature reserve, and school children visit it regularly to take part in outdoor learning. School children have even built bird boxes and placed them in the nature reserve. Where will all the nesting birds go if their habit is cruelly destroyed? It is a place where people seek peace and an escape from their daily life, as well as a place where people walk their dogs. Would anybody really want to see this appreciation of nature end? Where would all the dog walkers go?

Everyone involved understands that the road would stop some traffic congestion in Norton, and that this is an important aim of the local council; however, without developing a whole new conservation area, we would lose endangered wildlife that only exists in a few places around the country. Surely anyone can see that this would be a tragedy?

I hope you can see that the loss of this vital habitat would be detrimental to the environment, local walkers, schoolchildren and a wide range of endangered wildlife.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I hope that you will rethink your proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs V. Concerned.