

Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate General Information

The Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate is situated midway between Bury St Edmunds and Diss off the A143 road. It is based on an old wartime airfield and still has a large area allocated for general employment awaiting development. The total area of the site is some 90 hectares. There have been in recent times several major plans considered for the site, **part of the site was considered for a major waste plant for processing a minimum of 100,000 tonnes per annum of municipal and/or commercial waste this has been abandoned – see 7 below.**

Full development of some of these schemes would depend on the construction of a new roundabout on the A143 at Hepworth thus relieving Stanton's narrow streets of much of the HGV traffic from the industrial estate. Pairs of applications for large scale developments on Shepherds Grove both on the old Redlands site and the land to the North have expired. **SE/90/3540/P and SE/90/3541/P and were for B1 (Business), B2 (General Industry) and B8 (Storage or Distribution) uses together with service road and access, these were followed by SE/03/2902/P and SE/03/2903/P and a year later by SE/04/3917/P and SE/3918/P**

1. Application by Antiwaste Ltd (SE/01/2220/P) for a composting plant to eventually handle 154,000 tonnes per year of green and sorted domestic waste. **This application was eventually withdrawn following a very well attended public meeting and concerns over bio-aerosols affecting residents and workers.**

2. IKEA submitted a planning application SE/02/1747/P) to build an extremely large warehouse in two phases on the old Redlands site. Possible 150 jobs in phase one, 300 jobs when completed. Lorry movements, about 50 per day in phase one, double for phase two. Talks were ongoing between IKEA, the Borough Council and County Council. Permission was granted subject to conditions including sorting the road junction at the Bunbury Arms in Great Barton.

In August 2007 IKEA withdrew from this scheme but permission still existed for a very large warehouse.

3. HGV and fork truck driving school (SE/01/2617/P) on part of the old Shepherds Grove Mushroom site. This firm no longer appears to operate from Shepherds Grove.

4. Application by McGregor Cory (E/98/2806/P) as it was then (**now DHL**), for a large warehouse on the area between their existing site and the old Redland site, adjacent to the bottled gas plant. Part of this site was in use for a time by a builders merchant.

Should this application surface again it will almost certainly not be approved without a full traffic assessment and an improved access to the A143.

5. Application by Rossfleet Properties (E/98/3089/P) for Auction Market, general industry and storage and distribution on the former Redlands site. **Withdrawn.**

6. Mimo car sales. Application (by R & P Baker) for a large car sales area adjacent to Summer Road (SE/08/0815) approved September 2008 included a new access from Summer Road which was specifically restricted to this application but has since seen permission granted for access to the whole Baker's site. Present location of Mimo unknown but site appears unused.

7. Suffolk County Council were considering the possibility of locating a major waste disposal plant (incinerator) at Shepherds Grove, this has now thankfully been removed from the County Council Plans.