

Dickens' Country Protection Society



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Gravesham Borough Council
Planning Department
Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
DA12 1AU

21st April 2025

Dear Mrs Webster

Re Former Tollgate Hotel, Watling Street, Gravesend Kent
Demolition of existing buildings to provide an EV charging hub
and petrol filling station, including 24 charging bays and supporting
electrical infrastructure (12 charging upstands, three substations and
two network cabinets), six fuel pump islands with canopy above, a
forecourt shop/amenity building, customer parking, two air and water
spaces and associated hardstanding and landscaping, accessed from
the Wrotham Road/eastbound A2 roundabout junction.
Planning Application - **GR/2024/0856**

Thank you for your letter of 26th March 2025 concerning the above. The Society first wrote to the authority on the subject on 13th November 2024. The site in question is outside the Society's area of benefit, however our members use the local road network and the potential impact of the development on the Tollgate Junction of the M2 could be very significant.

A proportion of the traffic emanating from the new housing at Coldharbour and the new retail sites off Coldharbour Road, will already have been added to traffic using the junction. Accessing the southern roundabout from the London bound lane of the A2 can already be problematic as can access off the A227.

It is noted a hundred percent of the traffic associated with the proposed development will need to use the junction. Examining the drawings, there could be in excess of fifty vehicles on the site at any one time. Turnover on the site will vary. It is recognised that charging electric vehicles would retain them on site as would those associated with refreshment facilities and this may reduce hourly traffic flows. Petrol and diesel turnover, however, is likely to be more rapid.