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Dear Mrs Worden,

My apologies, but I was called away from the meeting from 10-10 to 10-25 this morning, and when I returned you were just finishing where I missed the opportunity of saying a few words at the end. Is it acceptable please for you to accept the comments I wanted to make that are outlined below?

I just wanted to say that one of my concerns with the plan is the fact that insufficient, what I describe as, 'doorstep opportunities' for people to walk to work from their homes or run local business are being allocated. We have the main service centres, but I also believe that there is a place for small business and employment opportunities to be created within smaller communities.

In the past 10 to 15 years we have lost two recuperation hospitals from the ward, a small joiners business, a bakers, a green grocer and our pet shop. There are no allocations for the shops and business that I know want to operate in the village such as a take away business, hair dressers, return of our pet shop, a small printing business, plus several others who have approached me. The Alyn and Deeside local plan of 1998 allocated an area for small business in the middle of the village, but large four bedroom homes ended up being built on the allocated land! It was claimed that nobody was interested in having their businesses there, but I have firm evidence that this was not the case.

We also have a small garage in the middle of the village who operates on a dangerous bend in a cold 1950s building, an auto electrician and a home tune business working in cold old stone barns on the edge of the village, and our Indian take away operating out of a large converted wagon from the British Legion car park!

I have identified PEN 015 and PEN 016 as possible sites for business units, but withdrawn 016 due to concerns over the location. I do believe that 015 could be a viable site, and that others within the ward need to be allocated for local shops and small business. I appreciate this would make us a more sustainable village and vulnerable to have to accept more housing, but I also believe the serviced need to be brought into the 21st century to provide for the existing community.

I hope this is acceptable to you and thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns.

Kind regards,

Cllr David Williams.