MONKS WOOD ACTION GROUP

13th April 2018

Dear Ms Copsey

I represent the Monks Wood Action Group, which consists of a group of residents of the Pattiswick area who came together in September 2016. Our group crosses the two parishes affected by Monks Wood (Coggeshall and Bradwell/Pattiswick) and includes residents of Stisted.

As the group most directly affected by the Monks Wood proposal, I wish to request the opportunity to submit this letter to the Inspector by way of a hearing statement, although we wish to be represented by CAUSE at the hearing on May 9 2018.

We oppose the opportunistic proposal for a garden community put forward by Lightwood in this unsustainable location. We believe that because the North Essex Authorities have chosen a spatial strategy to focus on very large new settlements without any reason given for their location, Lightwood has been given the opportunity to be given serious consideration for its wholly unsuitable proposal. Residents of this rural community have been put at risk by the 'Section 1’ plan.

We would support and endorse CAUSE’s hearing statement and additional papers. We object in the strongest terms to any attempt to 'insert' Monks Wood into the Plan or to 'modify' the Plan to allow for consultation on Monks Wood retrospectively. It is abundantly clear that the Plan as a whole needs to be looked at afresh to avoid further unsuitable proposals like Monks Wood gaining traction.

We would like to add that we do feel that there has been a breach to natural justice and that the residents of the Pattiswick estate and nearby have not had the right to a fair hearing. We were unable to respond to Lightwood's initial proposals in any meaningful way (merely via letters to Braintree) nor were we able to submit hearing statements or attend the Examination in Public in January. We would have sought to do both had we been aware of Lightwood's representations.

We hope that the Inspector will give this point of natural justice significant weight in his report.

Yours sincerely

Jeffrey Collins
Spinney House
Pattiswick