Plans for gipsy caravan site face refusal

PLANS for a six-caravan gipsy site in the Desford area are set to be refused by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

Landowner Walter Smith wants to open the site at Lockey Barn, off Hunts Lane, along the main road from Desford to Newbold Verdon.

He said he and his wife would permanently stay at the site while their married children and families would spend the winter there.

However, more than 200 residents have objected to the borough council amid fears over the impact on the village.

Planning officials will now recommend that the scheme is turned down at a planning meeting tomorrow.

A report by Chris Merriman, the borough council officer dealing with the application, said there were already three caravan sites in the vicinity and Mr Smith is understood to have control of one of them.

He said existing access to the proposed site was inadequate.

He added: "The road is subject to an unrestricted speed limit and additional turning movements at this location, outside the built-up limits of the village, would be to the detriment of highway safety."

The site would also harm the countryside's appearance, he said.