I have reviewed the original representation that I prepared in response to the Wyre Local Plan to 2031 and submitted in October 2017. The only additional representation that I would like to make relates to the impact of plans by Cuadrilla Elswick Ltd. to carry out fracking operations at Roseacre Wood. The proposed Inskip Extension is located 2.5km directly downwind from the proposed fracking site and if planning approval is eventually granted to Cuadrilla it will have a profound impact on the ambience at Inskip, which in turn may well impact on the ability of a property developer to retail new homes in this location. There are several aspects of the fracking proposal that might adversely impact on development at Inskip:

(i) The Cuadrilla proposed transport strategy is for up to 50 x 16.5 metre 44 tonne 6-axle OGV2 vehicle movements per day through Inskip, which would add a considerable load to our poorly maintained narrow country lanes and is seen as a major road safety issue;

(ii) The impact of the Anti-fracking Protests that are anticipated in the event that fracking is allowed at Roseacre Wood. The first fracking site established at Preston New Road has experienced large and continuous protests that have disrupted local life to a considerable degree with no signs of abating. Roseacre Wood would also undoubtedly attract a large number of protestors on our rural road network and given its rural location the policing challenge will be greater;

(iii) Fear of environmental detriment, specifically concerns with regard to light, noise, air, and groundwater pollution – and the concomitant health concerns;

(iv) In the event that Cuadrilla discover economically viable volumes of natural gas in the Bowland Shale formations under the Fylde peninsula it is anticipated that they would then raise further planning applications to develop multiple further sites in the vicinity.

The cumulative effect of these is likely to deter potential home buyers from moving to Inskip, making the property developers’ plans unsustainable; and the combined effect of fracking operations in the neighbourhood and of the Inskip Extension might well be to transform a small very traditional and close knit rural community into an ugly rural ghetto located in a dystopic heavy industrial landscape.

Kind regards,

Mike Ainsworth
Insleip-with-Sowerby Parish Clerk