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MAY 24 2022

To Municipality of WEST ELGIN
re Application for a zoning by-law Amendment
at SW corner of Graham Rd and Jane Street
File: D14 09-2022

We live at the NE corner of Graham Rd and Jane St. and have assumed the land at the SW corner was parkland owned by the village since the railroad was decommissioned. We never saw a 'For Sale' sign posted to show the land was for sale or changing ownership.

Has Orford Sand and Gravel Ltd always owned this property since Railway ownership? If so, why did the Municipality cut the grass? Who paid for that? Can anyone pay for the Municipality to cut their grass?

There was a sign on the property with the same printing and design as the West Lorne sign at the edge of town. The sign said 'McKishney Park'. Was that sign unlawful or were we deceived into thinking that land was parkland. Also, the Horticultural Club looked after a flower bed on that property. Whose permission did they have to do that?

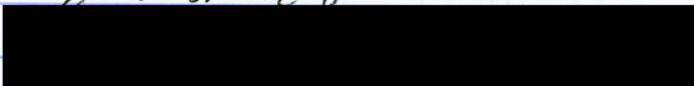
There are many beautiful trees planted on that property - getting to a mature size and many different varieties. Under whose permission were they planted? Will they be cut down in the name of development? What about the greening of the planet? Not in West Lorne?

Who's been paying taxes on that land for the last 20 years? When did the zoning become residential? Did the planning change after an application was made? Is there any long term plan for Finney St. to go through to join up with Ridge St. on the south side of the village?

I'm not against development in West Lorne but I don't think it has to happen on land people supposed was a park and has mature trees. You can't just plant 30-40 year old trees. Somebody had to plan for that 30-40 years ago, even if they would not live to see them grow to maturity. People donated time and money to enhance the village for future generations. Was this wasted? Can other people who donate to the community trust that their efforts will be preserved?

I would like to see that property remain treed. Also, the possibility of an easement for a public trail (potentially from St. Thomas to Ridgetown) exists if someone has a vision for the future.

Dorothy Stewart
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P.S. What about additional drainage system overload and drainage assessment changes? People already had flooded basements last summer. 