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On Behalf of Kirkby Residents Action Group

Date: 21 October 2013

Matter 6 Retail and Town Centre Regeneration

In the report from the Public Inquiry regarding Destination Kirkby
(File Ref: APP/V4305/V/08/1203375 Dated: 18th November 2008)

17.3.37 ‘As a result I find that there is no convincing argument that the need for a retail development of an appropriate scale could not be met within the existing town centre’ This statement from the inquiry which cost the residents millions of pounds has been totally ignored by our council since publication.

Tesco downsized original plans by 10 to 15% rubbed out the football stadium and KMBC rubber stamped outline plans.

Since then Tesco have now downsized again in KMBC’s Design and Access Statement, Kirkby Town Centre Development, Addendum July 2013

Approved scheme	Proposed scheme
Tesco store 14,000sqm gross 9,500sqm net	8,216sqm gross 5,600sqm net
Other retail 16,300sqm gross Units 11,410sqm net	22,093sqm gross 15,310sqm net

During the public inquiry Tesco could not name another household name that had agreed to come to Kirkby, yet 5years later in this harsh economic climate they expect to replace floor space Tesco have decide they cannot fill.

With this 50% smaller Tesco we argue that Wendy Burdon statement is acted upon, thereby saving 72 houses and acres of green space to the benefit of Kirkby people

Kirkby Residents Action Group question KMBC’s ‘leave our responsibility to Tesco’ Fearing there is no guarantee to keep to their word until they themselves feel an economic upturn and we fear if Retail Park it would be filled with high interest low morals retailers.

John Fleming
Chair Kirkby Residents Action Group