

Objection to the Brooklands Farm Development.

NICHOLAS HUTCHINGS [REDACTED]

Mon 4/29/2024 10:34 AM

To: Consultations <Consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

[REDACTED]

The Planning Department

Canterbury City Council

Council Offices

Military Road

Canterbury

CT1 1YW

29th April 2024

Dear Sirs,

RE:- Objection to proposed development of Brooklands Farm

We are writing to object strongly to the proposed development at Brooklands Farm. We feel we should highlight the following areas of concern.

The environment will suffer badly from this substantial programme of housebuilding and road creation due to the detrimental effect on many species of wildlife as their habitats will be destroyed. The flora and fauna which relies upon these creatures will be diminished. The air pollution from increased volumes of traffic and extra households will affect those already suffering from respiratory diseases and the levels of noise from building such a development will severely affect those already suffering from mental health problems and tinnitus. The calming, peaceful effects of green space cannot be underestimated. The Swale body of water is already in a poor ecological state and the levels of mercury are high, phosphates are also at a moderately high level. The existing arrangements for the management of sewage and wastewater are already struggling and flooding is already an issue without the addition of extra development.

The destruction of agricultural land is also very worrying at a time when this country is needing to increase food security, it's unbelievable that Canterbury Council are entertaining the idea of decreasing the opportunities for vital growth of food.

Only today we were listening to an article on LBC radio which highlighted the fact that cereal crops in the north and midlands of England have been severely affected and down by 21% compared to last year due to the extreme wet weather. It was mentioned that Kent was not affected. Another reason for keeping our farms in this area is our temperate weather conditions ideal for farming.

Food security has never been more important than it is now with a war raging in Ukraine. If we forsake our arable land and import more expensive grain we will literally be taking the food from our grandchildren's mouths. How can we be so shortsighted? It's just short term greed causing long term problems.

To replace our beautiful green lands with many rooftops is totally incongruous with our ancient landscapes and open spaces. The loss of this land can never be reversed and we'll end up with a museum showing us what we've forsaken.

Local infrastructure is currently not coping well and everything is already at a premium. Bus services in this area are pathetic, the number 5 local bus runs once an hour, there is no other route nearby so a car is necessary for many. This creates heavy traffic and parking issues which again further pollute the atmosphere and have a knock on effect on local people and businesses. Nearby schools and health care services will also struggle to provide capacity for this large increase in the local population. It's a very shortsighted plan to keep on adding dwellings with no proper provision for services in the long term. The map provided in the planning proposal talks of green corridors but it's just jargon to make some developer feel better about concreting all over the British countryside. Canterbury Council is probably hoping that we will all disappear down one of the many potholes in this area and shut up.

We do find it amazing that Canterbury is an ancient city which has led Britain in many ways and is a seat of learning for many brilliant scholars yet solutions seem so hard to find. What a shame that some of those great minds cannot focus on how to improve life for all residents by using affordable, innovative methods, sustainable resources and excellent technology without destroying the countryside. Never has this country lacked motivation and common sense so badly as it does now. Greed seems to be the order of the day and the basic moral codes ignored.

There are countless other concerns but we hope you will pay consideration to those we have raised?

Yours faithfully,

Nicholas Hutchings and Janet Hutchings