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My comments are in relation to Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6 of the Draft Local Plan and in particular to policy C12 of Chapter 2.

I strenuously object to the Plan regarding the building of a new town with 2000 dwellings on prime agricultural land that is crucial for local biodiversity and is perilously close to ancient forests. Before any consideration is given to paving over the countryside, brownfield sites in the District should be accorded priority for developments of this magnitude. In situations where that is not achievable on a large scale, the Council should seek an urgent exemption from housebuilding targets set by the Central Government, based on the district's exceptional wealth of rich natural assets and heritage. In precipitously advancing the C12 proposal, the Council is flouting their own policies by hurriedly pushing forward a weak case in a manner that suggests it has been hastened through just before the deadline, without sufficient deliberation and preparation.

The construction phase could severely compromise safe access to homes, schools, and businesses, causing daily inconvenience and potential economic losses. In the long term, the health effects of increased pollution from vehicles could be profound, impacting the well-being of the entire community. The area surrounding the bridleway opposite Kent College is steeped in history and natural beauty, with grade II listed buildings and tree-lined conservation areas that contribute to the region's unique character. Introducing a high-capacity road to serve a new housing development, complete with segregated cycle routes and wide pavements, would require a delicate balance. Such a development must ensure that the historical landscape is not compromised, a task that seems particularly challenging given the spatial and legal restrictions in place.

The proposed demolition of the much loved Blean Primary School is set to significantly disrupt the tightly-knit fabric of the community. This action will compel families to seek alternative schools for their children, potentially far from their homes, or relocating entirely, thereby fracturing the long-established local ties that have been nurtured over generations. The loss of this central and high achieving educational hub will not only inconvenience families but also erode the sense of unity and shared identity that the school has fostered within the community.

As nightingale populations in the UK have dwindled and their distribution has become more patchy, numerous sites where they still breed have grown progressively cut off from one another due to the species vanishing from intervening areas. Let us prevent this happening in our area by ensuring the land between Blean and Tyler Hill remains a rural biodiversity heaven.

Altering the narrow, weight-restricted Rough Common Road to make room for enormous construction lorries as well as a future surge in commuter traffic heading towards the A2 creates massive anxiety and discontent in that community, due to the almost certain disruption, pollution, noise and risk of damage to properties.

Puring concrete over agricultural land to introduce 2,000 dwellings on a hill with dense soil will reroute water towards lower villages, worsening the already deficient drainage and heightening flood dangers.

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