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From: Benedict Lewis [REDACTED]
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To: Consultations
Subject: BROOKLANDS FARN DEVELOPMENT-I OBJECT!

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I am writing (and on behalf of my wife Diana,) in response to the distressing news that Canterbury City Council's draft Local Plan includes a program to build 1,400 new homes on fields of Brooklands Farm, South street.

I am a keen cyclist and often use the Crab & Winkle cycle route adjacent to the proposed development and it is heart breaking and maddening to believe the Council would simply shoe horn a massive development into such an area of outstanding beauty.

Seriously, have any Council officers involved in the consultation process visited the site in question? As a Whitstable and Kent resident of twenty plus years, I love our beautiful Garden of England but it seems to be under threat from ill thought out proposals to rushed in to address our housing crisis. I am in no way against house building, but there have to be sensitive, creative ways of providing affordable housing that would enhance and not detract from the environment (such as the hideous, recently constructed cookie cutter style, bland, ugly estate known as Whitstable Heights, situated on the A2990 between Clapham Hill and Milstrood Road roundabouts respectively, damaging what was once a lovely vista overlooking Whitstable and the estuary,) and this doesn't just include the aesthetic appearance of any new building development.

The Whitstable area is already struggling to cope with our nation's shameful sewage issue, an ill-run local public transport system; an area prone to flooding not to mention a dense population build up in the South East already struggling to cope with water supplies during the summer months, due to lack of reservoirs and management of water retention, the list goes on.

I do not possess an in-depth knowledge on all the nuances of house planning and geographical consideration but please! Do not let the (hopefully annihilated Conservative government,) mislead you into pressing forward with such large scale developments that are bound to create so much environmental and societal harm for decades to come. Such a vast estate will mean more cars on the road, the need for more schools and medical services (both of which seem very slow in appearing-if ever.) There has to be sensitive investment and while undoubtedly more expensive, smaller estates that can be 'gently' introduced into our urban spaces must be revisited. Sure, it's harder to think outside the housing box with so many pressures a lack of housing creates but we will create an even worse scenario by simply ploughing forward with out of scale ideas like this.

THE SPACE WE TAKE UP ON THE EARTH NOW HAS TO BE JUSTIFIED FOR THE SAKE OF FUTURE GENERATIONS, NOT IN SPIE OF THEM.

Thank you.
Benedict Lewis

