

Alexander Gunyon

From: Louis East [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 June 2024 16:13
To: Consultations
Subject: I object to Policy W4 Brooklands Farm

Categories: Blue category

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I am writing to formally object to the planning application for approximately 1400 new houses at Brooklands Farm.

As a resident of Seasalter with a young family, I have several significant concerns regarding this development:

1. Increase in Traffic

Current Strain: The local area has already seen considerable development, with additional houses putting immense pressure on our local roads. The increase in traffic has led to frequent gridlock, particularly at the main roundabouts and roads close to my house such as Joy Lane and Faversham Road. The constant flow of vehicles, including those attracted to Whitstable has heightened both congestion and noise pollution.

New Slip Road: The proposed new slip road from the A299 will only exacerbate traffic issues, bringing more vehicles into Whitstable and Seasalter and increasing air and noise pollution, which is unsustainable for our community.

2. Flooding Issues

Clay Substrate: Seasalter is situated on clay soil, which already results in significant flooding during heavy rains. The addition of such a large development will increase surface runoff and strain our drainage systems, potentially worsening the existing flooding problems on local roads.

3. Sewage Infrastructure

System Overload: The existing sewage system in Seasalter is already under pressure, frequently resulting in overflow and pollution of local waterways. An influx of new housing would further burden this system, leading to more frequent incidents of raw sewage discharge into our environment and the sea.

4. Environmental Impact

Local Ecology: Seasalter, much like Chestfield, is rich in diverse wildlife and open spaces. These green areas are crucial for the well-being of residents and local biodiversity. The proposed development threatens to destroy these habitats, resulting in the irreversible loss of plant and animal species.

5. Healthcare Services

Overburdened Services: Our healthcare services, including GP surgeries, hospitals, and dental practices, are already struggling to meet current demands compared to just a year ago. Adding a substantial number of new houses and residents will stretch these services to a breaking point, resulting in longer wait times and reduced quality of care for all residents.

6. Negative Impact on Human Wellbeing

Loss of Green Spaces: Seasalter's open fields and walking routes are vital for residents' mental and physical health. These areas provide much-needed recreational spaces for relaxation and exercise. The development at Brooklands Farm would further reduce these spaces, negatively impacting our community's quality of life.

7. Cumulative Development Pressure

Unbalanced Growth: Like Chestfield, Seasalter is bearing the brunt of development pressures due to restrictions in other areas around Canterbury. This unbalanced growth is detrimental to our community, leading to overdevelopment and loss of valuable local resources. I urge you to reconsider the Brooklands Farm development plans in light of these substantial concerns. It is crucial to preserve the character and quality of life in Seasalter, Whitstable and Chestfield for current and future residents.

I have experienced first hand how damaging over development can be for a community. It's the reason why I was so desperate to relocate to Seasalter from Dartford where I previously lived. My wife and I were extremely happy to be able to move to Seasalter just before the birth of our daughter. The way of life is more relaxed and more sustainable. Which results in a happier and more inclusive community.

I have real fears that so much of what makes this area special would be lost forever if thousands more residents are added to our towns.

Sincerely,

Louis East

