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From: John Mac [REDACTED]
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Dear Sirs and Madams, I wish to stress the importance of preserving the Old Park and Checkers Wood as a green space for Canterbury. Part of the area has for a long time been an SSSI but in fact the entire area is very special and many of the parts outside the SSSI are even more biologically unusual as that included including the main nesting area for turtle doves, nightingales, clove-scented broomrape and other species. I understand the MOD reluctance to continue managing the land and are offering it for sale. But the area forms a crucial link in maintaining a green ecological corridor through the City which is already losing its charm and character in response to the excessive development. We do not need more people to add to the chaos of traffic, school shortages, lack of other facilities water, flood control, police etc. I hugely appeal to you to see the sense in a) making it quite clear that the land is off limits for development thus reducing its potential sale price and then b) finding funders willing to buy the site and develop it as a nature reserve. I think that the price could be even lower if the Council give MOD an assurance that the land could be again be used for military training in the event of any unforeseen warfare. No longer so unforeseen with Russia and Ukraine threatening to flare into NATO.

Commander, Professor John MacKinnon COGA