

## Alexander Gunyon

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**From:** Katherine Fleet [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 June 2024 15:58  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Canterbury Local Plan 2040 consultation response: Policy R5-Bread and Cheese Field

**Categories:** Blue category

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### --Email From External Account--

To Whom it may Concern,

My name is Theresa Moriarty and I own and live at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

I firstly wish to object to the Canterbury local plan 2040 in particular to Bushy Hill Road excluded from the Westbere village settlement boundary . Indeed, my property lies within a short walking distance of the centre of the village .

Secondly, I wish to object to the proposed development and of the " Bread and Cheese" field and fully agree with the objections lodged with your council by the Westbere preservation society as listed below:

1. OBJECTION - The Westbere settlement has been incorrectly defined, excluding 19 homes. This represents 15% of the village. 18 of these houses are in Bushy Hill Road. All these homes should be included within the Westbere settlement.
2. OBJECTION - The inclusion of Policy R5 (The bread and cheese Field) as a housing development in the local plan will cause the coalescence of Westbere and Hersden. This is an infringement of the planning policy and should not proceed. The Bread and Cheese Field should be retained as farmland and form the green gap between Westbere and Hersden.
3. SUPPORT – The green gap between Sturry and Westbere (the two fields) is well placed and should not be compromised.
4. SUPPORT – The green gap between Sturry and Hersden.
5. OBJECTION – The over-development of the A28 corridor through Sturry and toward Thanet. Additional housing in this area cannot be supported by the existing local services and infrastructure. The traffic volumes and consequential congestion is already contributing to the health concerns of local residents. The recent pedestrian fatality in Sturry has shocked the community, this event demands action by the Council to make this road safer. This needs to be addressed ahead of the existing housing developments completing and a further influx of new residents and their vehicles.
6. SUPPORT – The work to enhance Sturry railway station to improve traffic flow through the level crossing. This project needs to be prioritised and funded to ensure it happens in the short term.
7. SUPPORT – Investment in the Westbere Marshes as part of the Open Spaces Strategy.
8. Any development on the Bread and Cheese Field will effectively result in the merger of Westbere and Hersden by removing the Green Space between the two settlements that the Field provides (even though an attempt has been made to show this isn't the case by excluding the houses on Bushy Hill Road from the official settlement of Westbere in the draft Local Plan). This effectively destroys the individual identities of Westbere and Hersden, and results in continuous ribbon development along the south side of the A28.

9. According to a recent report produced by ACRA, (Alliance of Canterbury Residents' Association) Canterbury City Council has grossly over-stated the population growth for the area and, therefore, the demand for houses. The Bread and Cheese Field is not needed as a development site.
10. The Bread and Cheese Field, along with the ancient woodland and hedgerows, provide a vital source of biodiversity and supports a wide range of wildlife (including kestrels, buzzards, foxes, swallows and bats that have been sighted hunting on or above the Field). This will largely disappear with any development. R5 cites "opportunities for green corridors" and a 20% biodiversity net gain. Surely leaving the Field as a green space achieves these objectives more effectively than building 150 dwellings on it!
11. Current infrastructure in the area, such as local shops, Doctors, Dentists as well as the lack of work opportunities are woefully inadequate for the existing population, let alone the inhabitants of another 150 homes.
12. The A28 is already a busy A road, that has got busier with the recent large housing developments. This is a major problem and can lead to safety issues when trying to join the main road when leaving Westbere. The A28 cannot keep supporting the increase in traffic that new development would create.
13. The Field is of significant historic importance to the village of Westbere, with a charitable history that can be traced back over 300 years and is still continuing today (see Community Governance Review – Westbere and Hersden parish boundary).

Theresa Moriarty