

Alexander Gunyon

From: Eleanor [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 June 2024 11:37
To: Consultations
Subject: OBJECT - no to building on W4 Brooklands Farm

Categories: Blue category

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Dear Sir/Madam

As a resident of Whitstable, I would like to state my strong OBJECTION to the proposed development at Brooklands Farm, Chestfield (W4)

The proposal should be rejected on the following grounds:

1) Insufficient local infrastructure: Whitstable and Tankerton suffer from more sewage releases than anywhere else in Kent. Chestfield water treatment works are already under investigation by the environment agency. According to SOS Whitstable, this development could add up to 420 tonnes of water and sewage to the area's antiquated and overwhelmed system every day. There is already a risk of significantly increased flooding at Brooklands and downstream in Chestfield and Swalecliffe. Concreting over green space to reduce drainage and adding thousands more users will add hugely to this risk.

2) Destroying natural habitats in a climate and biodiversity crisis

The land at Brooklands Farm, which forms part of the celebrated Crab and Winkle footpath, is home to thousands of species. Birdlife includes the Corn Bunting (endangered), Skylarks, owls, sparrowhawks and a plethora of others. Mammals like hedgehogs (severely under threat in the U.K.) would have also yet more of their habitat destroyed. The development would also mean the loss of best and most versatile agricultural land, at a time when food security has never been more important due to the climate crisis.

3) Permanent destruction of the rural nature of the valley of the Swalecliffe Brook

This provides the unofficial Green Belt between Whitstable and the Blean.

4) Increased pollution and congestion due to traffic

1400 more houses, without adequate public transport, will mean thousands more cars on already stretched roads. Residents of Whitstable have had months of traffic chaos because they are inadequate for the traffic we already have

5) This will not help the "housing crisis"

The population is decreasing, while Government's housing targets are based on the premise that the population is increasing. Households are also getting smaller

(<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojections/dataset/householdprojectionsforengland>) and the population is aging, so the need is for one bedroom properties not majority three and four bed properties that the developers want to build on Brooklands Farm.

Yours faithfully
Eleanor Preston

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