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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 June 2024 09:26
To: Consultations
Subject: Policy R5 - Bread and Cheese Field

Categories: Blue category

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Dear Canterbury City Council,

Re: Policy R5 - Bread and Cheese Field

We wish to oppose the inclusion of the Bread and Cheese Field as a Strategic Site for Housing Development in the draft Canterbury District Local Plan 2040.

Our reasons are as follows

- The Bread and Cheese Field provides a vital source of biodiversity. The ancient woodland and hedgerows are home to a wide range of wildlife including buzzards, kestrels, foxes, swallows and bats. Any development of the site will destroy this habitat and would be a contradiction to the Council's R5 commitment to a 20% biodiversity net gain and opportunities for green corridors.
- The A28 is already a very busy A road. The recent development of housing in Hersden has increased the burden of traffic and results in long tailbacks when the Sturry Crossing is closed. Traffic noise and pollution is already creating a negative effect for local residents on Island Rd and this will only increase if the proposed housing development goes ahead.
- A recent report by ACRA (Alliance of Canterbury Residents Association) states Canterbury City Council has overestimated the population growth for the area and therefore the demand for houses.
- Current infrastructure such as local Doctors and Dentists are under strain for the existing population. This will only be exacerbated if a further 150 homes are built.
- 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 continues to this day. If the development goes ahead it will effectively merge Hersden and Westbere, thereby destroying the individual identities of these historic settlements.

To summarise - the inclusion of the Bread and Cheese Field as a Strategic Site for Housing Development is harmful to the environment. It will damage the quality of life for the current inhabitants of Hersden, Westbere and Sturry and will increase the pressure on local NHS services.

We ask that you remove the Bread and Cheese Field from all future Housing Development strategies.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Baker

