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From: Gabe Mitchell [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 June 2024 21:59
To: Consultations
Subject: Objection – Housing Development at Brooklands Farm (Policy W4)
Categories: Blue category

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Gabriel Mitchell
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1st June 2024

Canterbury City Council
Planning Office

To Whom it may concern,

Objection – Housing Development at Brooklands Farm (Policy W4)

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed housing development at Brooklands Farm in Whitstable, Kent.

I have just turned [REDACTED] and Whitstable has been my home all my life. Sadly, I can already see the impact the current developments are having in my hometown, from traffic queues to hosepipe bans, sewage being pumped into the sea to over stretched hospitals and the effect that has on patients and their families. I value the green space we have; I do not want to see it lost.

My Objections:

Infrastructure Strain: The impact this development will have on Whitstable's already strained infrastructure. The current sewage system is reportedly at capacity and suffers from frequent overflows <https://www.kentlive.news/news/kent-news/fears-whitstables-sewage-system-1400-9249143>. The proposed increase of 1,400 homes in Whitstable, 2000 in Blean plus those already under construction will only exacerbate this issue, leading to possible increased pollution and health risks.

Loss of Green Space: Brooklands Farm is a valuable green space within Whitstable. The development of this land will result in the loss of natural habitat, valuable Grade 3a fields and recreational space for residents. This loss will negatively impact the character of the town and the well-being of its residents.

Flooding: The fields at Brooklands Farm currently act as natural drainage. Flooding already occurs during periods of heavy rain along Chestfield Road. The replacement of these fields with roads and houses can only make this situation worse.

Increased Traffic Congestion: Whitstable already experiences traffic congestion, particularly during peak times. The influx of new residents and vehicles associated with this development will further worsen traffic flow, impacting commutes and overall quality of life. The infrastructure proposed has not been modelled by KCC so any of the proposals made cannot be validated.

Impact on Local Services: A significant increase in population will place a significant burden on local services such as schools, healthcare facilities, and emergency services. The proposal lacks sufficient detail regarding how these services will be adequately expanded to accommodate the needs of the new residents.

I urge the council to explore alternative solutions that meet the need for new housing without sacrificing Whitstable's unique character and infrastructure capacity. Consideration should also be given to looking at the number of houses required under a new government.

I strongly request that the council carefully consider the objections raised by myself and other concerned residents. I feel as part of the younger generation we are always being targeted regarding the environment yet you are making our roles harder to put the damage right by agreeing to housing developments that affect not only our community but permanently damage our fragile environment.

Please consider my generations futures; Whitstable is a town I would like to stay in; please do not strip away its's charm and character for targets that can be fought.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Signed

Gabriel Mitchell