Alexander Gunyon

From: May Baker

Sent: 01 June 2024 21:29 **To:** Consultations

Subject: Consultation for Canterbury District Local Plan to 2040

Categories: Blue category

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I object to policies W3 and W4 (Brooklands Farm) of the draft Local Plan to 2040 for the following reasons:

- 1. **Loss of an Area of High Landscape Value** with great views. CCC should reinforce the open rural setting of Whitstable and not develop in the A299 New Thanet Way corridor.
- 2. **This is not a sustainable place to build a large development**, from which driving commuters will contribute to traffic congestion in the local area.
- 3. **Increased flood risk** downstream on the Swalecliffe Brook. At present heavy rain sits on the farmland before is slowly evaporates or trickles into the Brook. Vast areas of storage would be required to accommodate rainwater run-off from any urban development, but this could not be located close to the Brook because that area already floods when the river level rises over the riverbanks as happened in February.
- 4. **Lack of health facilities**. Local residents have problems getting to see a local GP, and getting hospital appointment and treatment.
- 5. The local **sewage works cannot cope** with the increasing demand, and regularly releases untreated sewage into the sea, causing instances of serious illness for people on local beaches. The new outfall under construction will not solve this problem.
- 6. The proposed new junction linking the A299 to Chestfield Rd and South Street would create **huge increases in traffic, and therefore road safety problems, pollution and noise** in residential areas.
- 7. **Bad for our wildlife.** Seriously negative impact on Biodiversity due to the destruction of habitat for wildlife.
- 8. Loss of "Best and most versatile" agricultural land.
- 9. **CCC needs to recognise that housing developments affect the coastal towns much more severely than Canterbury**. Canterbury can expand to north, east, south and west. Whitstable can only expand southwards, as it is constrained by marshland to the west, and by Herne Bay to the east. The farmland around Whitstable should be given statutory protection.
- 10. For the reasons listed above, the proposals would be unsustainable and would contravene paragraphs 135c, 168, 173, 180a, 180b, 180d and 191b of the Government's National Planning Policy Framework.

Yours faithfully

Mei Baker -