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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 June 2024 19:17
To: Consultations
Subject: POLICY C12 UNIVERSITY OF KENT DEVELOPMENT

Categories: Blue category

--Email From External Account--

I STRONGLY OPPOSE C12 University of Kent Development

The Draft Local Plan 2012 states that it would protect this land. What has changed? This development was carefully added quietly to the local plan, blindsiding the residents of the area. The information, maps, routes of proposed roads are so vague and unintelligible. Landmarks left out, faint ink of place names, arrows going here, there and everywhere signifying possible new roads to the development make no sense whatsoever and are an insult to our intelligence. We cannot consult on a plan that we cannot make sense of, but the little we do totally horrifies us.

This development will be twice the size of the central walled part of Canterbury. I find it galling that this giant conurbation is called a 'Garden City

My family have lived in and around Canterbury since the 1800s. We love and are proud of our historic city, glorious Cathedral and stunning countryside. It is very upsetting to see the constant chipping away of our farmland, green spaces for housing which seems to be due to Canterbury City Council's unwillingness to challenge unrealistic housing targets, The Government changes to the NPPF now state that councils have a provision to plead for Special Circumstances and I believe that CCC should seriously do this.

Canterbury is a small Cathedral City with the rural villages of Blean, Tyler Hill and Rough Common, each with their own distinct character. Building a massive New Town { which is what this is} is totally inappropriate and would cause absolute chaos. There are only 2 roads in and out of the development { as the University do not want the extra traffic around their campus !!!}

From what we can gather there will be 2 new roads:

1} From the main Whitstable Road, Blean, To bulldoze a charming village school Blean Primary School. Ofsted rated Outstanding, where the children are all very happy. So their school will go, their playground. They will be uprooted to a newly built school in a large development full of concrete, a massive development of 2000 houses and all that entails. While at the moment they are surrounded by an ancient countryside cherished Blean.

2} Road 2 From Whitstable Road,{opposite Kent College} on the Bridleway. the well loved Crab & Winkle Way,{ so no access for walkers, runners or cyclists for years if ever as it will be gone} will involve the felling of many mature trees that line the main road, driving a wide access route for lorries, right through green space, destroying the lovely Oasis Community Garden and Observatory. Bulldozing the Oaks Nursery skirting right at the back of the playground of Blean Primary { the children, teachers and parents will have to put up with the dust, pollution and mayhem for years until the allocated schools are

built for them to move into.} Are they guaranteed places at the new schools?, we don't know. The car park for Oaks Nursery will go at an early stage all for the development. Further down the track we have ANCIENT WOODLAND which was mapped by DEFRA {MagicMap} National Mapping Resource,. LONG THIN WOOD [SARRE PENN SHAW] and WEST TRIANGLE WOOD are protected by law.

BROTHERHOOD WOOD is a significant marker of biodiversity, Bluebells, Archangel, Wood Spurge and Wood Rush. {Ref :The Blean Wood Group{ edited by William Holmes & Alexander Wheaten} 2002. 'The Blean - Woodlands of a Cathedral City ' White Horse Press.

The average family has 1 or 2 cars, that is potentially 2000 to 4000 cars on our village roads, but then they would not stay village roads they would be enlarged to accommodate all this traffic. Rough Common Road, Whitstable Road is very busy now, it would not be able to cope with this amount of extra traffic, it would be a nightmare getting around Canterbury.

The plan states that this will be a Bus Lead Community. We have no information about how this will be delivered. Will Stagecoach provide this? The local bus services have been reduced to hourly. How many extra buses would this entail?

The 2020 Canterbury Landscape Assessment & Biodiversity Appraisal confirms highly relevant sensitives relating to the landscape Policy C12

An area of Ancient Woods, Heritage Sites - St Cosmos and St Damien Church, The Sarre Penn Valley, Scheduled Historic Monuments - Roman Villa, Medieval Tile Kilns a known Iron Age Settlement,

Loss of High Grade Agricultural Land would result in the loss of the most versatile agricultural land in the area. Currently Grade 3a.

Home to rare birds Skylarks, Nightingales, Turtle Doves.
Crested Newts, Bats.

I imagine you have had hundreds of submissions regarding this development all stating their reasons why it would be catastrophic for this historic rural area,
There is another way that would put Canterbury on the map.

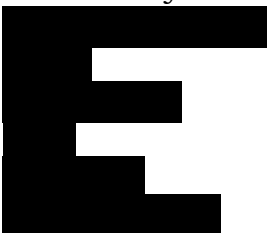
With the University sited in an exceptional area with so much potential with this glorious countryside around it, it could become a centre of excellence for the study of nature and conservation. Students would come from around the world to study {Knepp Estate Sussex} is a prime example of nature recovery. Its all there at the Universities feet.

The RSBP and Woodland Trust have been working tirelessly to connect these areas together. The community of the 3 villages and beyond would be right behind them.

Please protect the Blean and not condemn it to concrete.

Thank you for your kind attention

Mrs Wendy Stennett

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

