

## Alexander Gunyon

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**From:** Keith Watson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 01 June 2024 14:58  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** OBJECTION to POLICY W4, BROOKLANDS FARM.

**Categories:** Blue category

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**From:** Keith Watson, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### **OBJECTION to POLICY W4, BROOKLANDS FARM. Dated 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024**

I strongly object to the Brooklands Farm development for the following reasons,

1. Brooklands Farm is good quality agricultural land and we can ill afford to lose such a valuable resource. It acts as natural drainage for an area that already suffers from flooding particularly the area where the A299 bridge crosses Chestfield Road and Swalecliffe Brook is unable to cope with the existing rainfall we have at present as experienced by the residents of Shepherds Walk.
2. From an ecological aspect, the impact on wildlife habitats from the destruction of hedgerows and the loss of biodiversity will disrupt the delicate ecosystem. The loss of such a lovely green space will be lost forever.
3. The scale of the development is unsustainable in terms of infra structure. Along with the developments at Grasmere Pastures and Bodkins Farm, our Medical Centres and schools will be unable to provide a service to meet existing needs. It is all very well providing land for schools but there is no guarantee they will ever be built,
4. The sewage system is already unable to cope, and the addition of 1400 houses will undoubtedly overload the system well beyond its capacity to cope. There are already problems at the junction of Chestfield Road and Maydowns Road where waste water from the new development at Greenhill in Herne Bay has been routed through because it is unable to cope there and now regularly floods with the manhole cover lifting due to excess water pressure. In addition, the water leaks experienced this very week forcing the closure of Chestfield Road and temporary traffic lights for five days and are still in operation at the time of writing show how fragile the system is.
5. The proposed new junction to the A299 will mean a massive increase in traffic along Chestfield Road and destroy the rural aspect of the village. The proposed slip road will not just be used by residents of the new development but those who are travelling to the East Whitstable area, Swalecliffe and even Greenhill. There will be a major bottleneck at the already busy Chestfield and Sainsburys roundabouts. This will soon increase with the Grasmere Pastures development with access and egress via the Sainsburys roundabout which also serves the many retail and industrial outlets.

As a Speedwatch volunteer, I regularly witness poor driving along Chestfield Road particularly speeding nearby the playpark which is very popular with children and will be exacerbated by the new junction with the A299. I have spoken with many residents who for some time do not feel safe crossing this road particularly due to lack of footways.

In conclusion, I do appreciate the need for more housing but the development of 1400 houses is just not sustainable particularly as a large number of affordable housing in the area is being purchased by the London boroughs denying local people the opportunity to live there.

May I strongly urge you to reconsider this development at Brooklands Farm in relation to the other large developments in our Town and thank you for reviewing these objections

**Keith Watson**

Keith Watson