Alexander Gunyon

From: Richard Barsby
Sent: 31 May 2024 15:51

To: Consultations

Subject: Re: Consultation for Canterbury District Local Plan to 2040

Categories: Blue category

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Dear Sirs,

Re; Policies W3 and W4 (Brooklands Farm) of the local Pan to 2040

I strongly object to the policies W3 and W4; development plans of the green spaces between South Tankerton and Chestfield.

I strongly object to the proposed new junction off the A299 into Chestfield and the development of a secondary school in the area of Bodkin farm.

My reasons are;

- 1. The loss of wildlife habitat and consequent reduction in wildlife, wild flowers and trees; loss of beautiful views and landscape over the fields towards Blean and East Blean and Clowes woods. I regularly see Kestrels and Buzzards while driving along South street. The agricultural land is habitat for smaller birds and other wildlife; I have seen and heard Curlews which breed in the fields, and lots of other birds rely on the hedgerows and grasses for their survival, as well as numerous other small mammals, amphibians and insects.

 Once this land and these animals have gone they will never be replaced.
- 2. More houses mean more traffic, more pollution, more sewage, more demands on water supply; more concrete creates increased water run off and therefore increased risk of flooding and sewage discharges.
- 3. Healthcare facilities cannot cope with the current population, so more people would put more strain on existing services.
- 4. The Chestfield road is busy enough, it goes through the 'village' of Chestfield, it is not suitable for the extra traffic directly from the A299, or from 1,800 or more new homes.

I have been a resident of Chestfield for 27 years, and working locally, I have seen the area become steadily busier with people and traffic; just to go out shopping into Whitstable or Herne Bay at any time of the day means queues at the roundabouts, pedestrian crossings and junctions. So more people and traffic will make the roads even busier. I would consider cycling if there were continuous designated cycle lanes or paths, not disjointed apologies for cyclists. And what about the road towards Canterbury? How would it cope with the extra traffic, especially with 9 to 5 workers?

I feel that it is a travesty to build on prime agricultural land, for the reasons above, and I would like to see the area either left untouched, or maintained as a wildlife reserve and/or leisure park.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Richard Barsby,