

Alexander Gunyon

From: sharon rouse [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2024 12:55
To: Consultations
Subject: Proposed 2,000 House Development in Blean

Categories: Blue category

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to register my objections to the above proposal to develop land currently owned by the University of Kent for a large housing development. My main concerns are as follows but not limited to these nor in priority order:

- the resulting significant increase in traffic and pollution that will result. The Council's proposed emphasis on bus, cycling, walking routes will not alleviate this. Expectation that residents will transfer from car to public transport travel is not the reality and impossible for many to achieve for multiple reasons
- any significant house building in this area, whether 2,000 houses are granted or less, will destroy valuable farm land, have a serious detrimental effect on current residents, the environment, wildlife and the green space essential for future generations. Once destroyed, the environs are lost forever
- serious consequences of increasing the local population (taking account of all the development in the area that is currently under construction and proposed from Whitstable, Herne Bay, Canterbury and beyond) on access to adequate health care, education, water/sewerage and to provide adequate infrastructure to support such an influx of people. All of our systems are already overwhelmed and inadequate to support the current population
- a large number of the new homes currently under construction to meet central Government targets are not affordable and do not alleviate the problems experienced by young people, essential workers aspiring to enter the housing market and care facilities for those in need of it. How will this proposed development be structured differently to accommodate need
- the proposal is significantly contrary to the owner's (The University of Kent) stated green policy and is reneging on their policy to protect and preserve this land for future generations in an area of significant scientific interest, where there are currently innovative methods of conservation of wildlife and rare ancient woodland (an ethos that the University purportedly supports)
- effects on pupils, their families and staff of demolishing and rebuilding Blean Primary School to provide adequate access. This is a highly respected and outstanding school (how will this be satisfactorily and safely achieved)
- the proposed development brings concerns about short term financial gain versus serious loss of important access to green spaces for the long term physical and mental wellbeing of our community

Yes, affordable sustainable housing is necessary but should be fulfilled elsewhere on more suitable land where significant additional housing is already being built. This proposal will create many more problems than it solves in this immediate locality and beyond.

Sharon Rouse
[REDACTED]

