

## Alexander Gunyon

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These comments are submitted by Roger Green, as Chairman, on behalf of the Friends of Fordwich & District.

#### 1) Policy C20, Land to south of Sturry Road

Just like the EMC, a very significant plan, which would have a devastating effect on Fordwich, without any prior consultation. Over the past 25 years, scores of properties have come within a few centimeters of being flooded by the river Stour. Removing most of the upstream water meadow to provide additional effluent treatment facilities would undoubtedly cause all flood events to be more serious for Fordwich with many homes flooded. Have you consulted any independent experts to quantify the above increased risk of flooding?

#### 2) More mobile homes at Romany Greenacres / Moate Farm?

The [Gypsy and Traveller and Travelling Showperson Needs Assessment \(2024\)](#), seems to suggest that a further 54 pitches for gypsy and traveller accommodation will be needed up to 2040. Both Romany Greenacres and Moate Farm already have many more caravans than are permitted, and we would ask that CCC reduce the number of caravans, and not seek to increase this number. Neither site can satisfy requirements for nutrient neutrality, nor do they have adequate sight lines, necessary for highway safety. Both sites pose a threat to highway safety, which in turn conflicts with active transport aspirations in the area (eg. Pedestrians and cyclists can no longer safely pass Romany Greenacres due to dangerous dog attacks, and the police can do nothing). For the past 25 years at least, CCC has completely failed in its responsibility to make adequate provision for traveller sites in the district. Making adequate local authority provision would simultaneously cater for accommodation need (which is not as great as you think) and prevent the LA from losing expensive planning appeals due to inadequate provision, which often lead to inappropriate site expansion in inappropriate areas.

#### 3) Absence of Policy on Fordwich

Decades ago, Fordwich along with a handful of villages, was specifically identified in the Local Plan as having very special heritage status, which merited enhanced levels of protection. Canterbury heritage as we know it would not exist without Fordwich, as almost all imports and exports passed through Fordwich. The lack of recognition of the special and fragile status of Fordwich leads to proposals like the EMC and Policy C20 being created without planners even considering the risks to Fordwich.