

Alexander Gunyon

From: Andy Wheeler [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 June 2024 13:01
To: Consultations
Subject: Local Plan- Site C12

Categories: Green category

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REF Local Plan- Site C12

Good afternoon,

My name is Andrew Wheeler and I am a resident of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I am writing to express my objections to the planned development ref 'Local Plan- Site C12' (see chapter 2, policy C12). I have outlined my main arguments in the points below:

SERVICES

New developments such as housing seem like a good idea on the surface, however they need to be augmented by suitable amenities and services.

Essential local resources such as schools, doctors, hospitals, police, water supplies, waste treatment and refuse are all already stretched to capacity within the Canterbury area. Adding an additional load to these systems would only lead to further decline. Without all of these services being accounted for and increased, significant additional population would be reckless.

TRAFFIC

On the subject of infrastructure, the current road systems are already very busy and would not have capacity for the number of new properties in the proposal. The increased traffic would lead to grid-lock which would further increase pollution as cars sit in traffic. The worse times would of course be at the beginning and end of weekdays, which coincides with local school times. This provides an increased danger to school children who need to cross an already very busy road system.

The existing roads in the surrounding area are quite small for the volume of traffic, and the curving nature has led to many road traffic accidents. This would not be improved by adding additional cars and pedestrians to the area.

FARMLAND

The proposed developments will necessarily destroy quality farmland, not only reducing food production but also removing wildlife habitats. In addition, loss of farmland will increase surface water run-off which could directly lead to greater risk of flooding in affected areas as well as removing a significant portion of useful water draining in to the natural water table. There are already almost annual hose pipe bans due to the lack of local water supplies. Not only would the new development add additional burden in terms of water demand, but it would directly reduce the supply of water available.

NATURE & WILDLIFE

Current policies and guidance are to encourage wildlife and connect existing areas of woodlands. This development would be in direct opposition of this. Once habitats are gone, they are not easy to reintroduce, and once the endemic wildlife is gone there would be no road back. I am a great believer that we should live in balance with nature and not over tax it, wildlife has the right to flourish and should not be destroyed.

HISTORICAL

The proposed development and its surrounding areas contain ancient woodland, listed buildings, scheduled monuments and conservation areas. Not only would the character of the areas change, but they could be directly damaged. This does not seem in keeping with the Council's Local Plan of "enhancing the historic environment for future".

Thank you for taking the time to read this email.

Best regards,

Andy

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]