Alexander Gunyon

From: Maggie Cole

 Sent:
 03 June 2024 12:29

 To:
 Consultations

Subject: Proposed Development of 2000 houses for the Blean Area

Categories: Green category

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Objection to Site C12 in the draft Local Plan

I strongly oppose the proposed development of the above for the following reasons:

- 1. The land targeted for development is completely the wrong site for such a huge development. 2000 houses (approximating 8000 more people) in a semi rural area bounded by conservation sites (the forest of Blean) is going to have a stratospheric effect on such an area. Thousands of families needing healthcare, schools etc on such a site is unsustainable. Our healthcare system down here is already at buckling point due to other housing sites just outside Whitstable...and more proposed. Estuary View does its best to cope but I had to wait 2 hours last week to see a GP. The Kent and Canterbury Hospital is also struggling with the new influx of people. There is no proper A&E department there. The more well equipped and properly staffed department is at Margate Hospital, miles away from Canterbury. To sum up, yet more houses and people on that site is an ill conceived idea, detrimental to everyone living in the Blean area and surrounding districts.
- 2) The effect on our roads will be catastrophic. The potential for possibly 4,000 more cars on our already congested roads will have a huge impact on the area, meaning more pollution and an adverse effect on our precious and fast disappearing wildlife. The country roads around Blean were built in a different age when this was a rural area outside Canterbury. There are numerous accidents, some fatal, on the Canterbury to Whitstable road. Some drivers use the road as a race track. More traffic is only going to aggravate the situation. Roads are constantly being dug up for utility companies...and the ever growing potholes are a year round hazard.
- 3) Sewage! The impact of yet more sewage in the area is going to affect everyone. I live in Whitstable and already, thanks to SE Water dumping its overflow into the sea around here, it is no longer advisable to go swimming from our beaches. This used to be a pristine coastline but in recent years the dumping problem has got worse. Our sewage system is no longer capable of processing the amount of waste generated by the thousands of people now living in this area.
- 4) The site proposed for the 2000 new homes is a flood plain area. This will have a huge impact on the surrounding areas. Floods have already impacted the residential Blean district in previous years. Yet again this is an ill conceived plan to build on such an important environmental site.
- 5) Last, but not least, I cannot stress enough the huge effect of losing yet more Kent countryside to developers who are driven by greed with no thought for the massive effect this is going to have on our wildlife which is already struggling. We are constantly being told to save the planet but how is the digging up of yet more valuable green fields going to achieve that? We are losing valuable farm land down here which could be used to bolster the growing of our food.

To sum up, I would urge the Council to think carefully before giving this plan the green light. I am aware we need more houses but this is completely the wrong place to choose. If the land has to go then please, please, reduce the amount of housing.

