

## Alexander Gunyon

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**From:** Elena Korosteleva [REDACTED]  
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Name: Prof. Elena Korosteleva  
[REDACTED]

I am responding as a resident of the Canterbury District.

My comments are in relation to Chapters 1, 2, 5 and 6 of the Draft Local Plan and in particular to policy C12 of Chapter 2.

The notion of building a 2000-home town on prime agricultural land, crucial for local biodiversity and adjacent to ancient forests, is fundamentally unacceptable to me. The Council's actions defy their own policies, rashly advancing a feeble case rather than seeking an exemption due to Canterbury's unique circumstances. Large-scale developments should utilize the many available brownfield sites before contemplating the destruction of the countryside.

Blean, Tyler Hill, and the Sarre Penn Valley are regions rich in history and heritage, making them truly exceptional places. The Church of St Cosmus & St Damian, situated on the former Roman Salt Road, serves as a notable local landmark. The Crab & Winkle Way, a cycling route of national importance, regularly draws visitors to explore these areas.

Archaeological excavations revealed tools utilized by Mesolithic hunters, and a series of Bronze Age burial mounds lie within the field near the church. Furthermore, a massive medieval enclosure ditch, associated with the adjacent Blean Manor House, mentioned in the Domesday Book, is present. Multiple heritage sites and conservation areas are situated in and adjoining the whole area earmarked for development. These are all protected by National Planning Laws. It is perplexing how the Council could even consider allowing construction in this region.

The parcel earmarked as the principal gateway to the planned community presently serves as the location for the Kent Community Oasis Garden, the University's Observatory for Astronomy, and ponds where newts reside. This region boasts one of the densest populations of Great Crested newts in the South of England, under continuous study since 1994. Their existence faces permanent extinguishment once the development project begins.

I do hope the Council will listen to the citizens and their concerns, and look forward to the Council reconsidering their plans as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Elena Korosteleva  
Professor of Politics & Global Sustainable Development

