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I am writing to object to the proposal to build 2000 houses in Blean. My main objection is that it will significantly add to the traffic problems that the area already faces and there is no genuine and workable provision in the proposal to mitigate against this. This would be a large scale car dependent development in an area that is already over-burdened with cars and the resulting pollution and congestion. 2000 houses means at least this number of cars but without an adequate active travel plan or well thought through incentives to keep people out of their cars, the quality of life of existing residents will be diminished. The bus first proposals are unlikely to work unless significant commitment is made to provide a regular and affordable service, but this would depend upon Stagecoach being compelled to provide this, and a huge culture change to persuade people to leave their cars at home. I do not believe that these issues are adequately addressed in the plans.

Plans of this nature are not supposed to worsen the quality of life of existing residents, but this plan has the potential to do exactly this. The roads around Blean and Tyler hill which already face congestion will suffer, as will the quality of life of residents who will experience greater congestion and consequent air pollution.

In addition the development threatens the rural quality of the area. The plans will turn the affected villages into a large conurbation and destroy the rural character, something that contradicts the council's 2021 Land Character Assessment. In addition it will destroy high quality agricultural land, something this densely populated area needs.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Poole