

Miss Linda Hill



The Planning Department
Canterbury City Council
Military Road
Canterbury
CT1 1YW

21st May 2024

Dear Sirs,

Re: Brooklands Farm, Whitstable

I am writing to express my dismay at the potential development of Brooklands Farm in South Street, Whitstable into a 'housing estate' with 1400 new houses.

I cannot begin to imagine why planning consent is even being considered. This is a fully functioning working farm that provides local produce and work for local people. I was lucky enough to spend my early childhood living near the area and we enjoyed going for long walks across the fields via the public footpaths that cross the area. If this land is built on it will mean the loss of a great local amenity for residents.

As there is also a daft idea to build on The Blean these two developments could potentially join up into a sprawling mess – we need to give the whole area 'protected status'.

We hear nothing but people going on about 'green' areas and 'green' sustainability – well this area is already 'green' – with its wildlife habitats and local genuine 'biodiversity. Let's not re-invent the wheel.

Where are people going to go to escape others, where can they just disappear into the countryside for some peace and quite? There is a song and dance about 'mental health' at the moment; building more houses in the 'countryside' will certainly impact people's 'mental health'.

Why is the council even considering building on prime agricultural land - during these very difficult times we need to rely on food security being in our own hands – not potentially having a 'gun' held at our heads by other states because we do not have the wherewithal to supply our own people with food.

1400 homes will mean at least an extra 4000 cars; couples now have a car each and little 'Jonny's or Jills' grow up and have their own cars at 17. Think of the potential impact this many cars will have on the area. This corner of Kent cannot cope with anymore cars, the roads and infra structure is falling apart as it and no one has taken into account what could happen in the future.

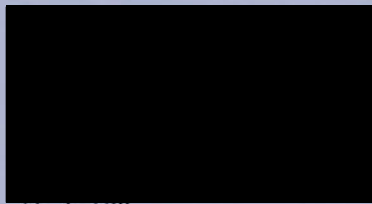
K&C Hospital no longer has an A&E unit and no one in their right mind wants to go anywhere near QEQM or the William Harvey. Estuary View certainly cannot cope with a swell in local residents.

Have you smelt the 'stench' from the local sewage works when they release untreated effluent into the sea because it cannot cope – it stinks! Not unlike this proposed development really. You don't really expect Southern Water to invest money on upgrading the treatment works, do you?

I predict in less 50 years this part of Kent will end up as part of greater London – as Bexley Heath and Bromley have been in the past, it will be subsumed into a London suburb. Our once lovely little fishing town will just be an urban mess. And we all know this development will not be for local people - 'outsiders' will move down here.

I will not be here in 50 years – but I will be spinning in my grave at the wonderful county of Kent being covered in ugly houses.

Please think again and do not allow this development to proceed.



Linda Hill