

In response to the Canterbury local plan for 2040.

Firstly, I would like to thank the council for upholding our concerns over the previous plan, and removing the entire plan for the "Cooting farm community garden scheme" otherwise known as Adisham New Town, R1.

However, our concerns for the future plans remain, as the impact this would have on what is fast becoming an over-populated part of the country, is more than worrying.

We are yet to see the full effect of the increased housing in neighbouring villages such as Aylesham and Littlebourne, as these are still under construction. I am sure they will undoubtedly add to the demands on all the resources and infrastructure serving the area, and allowing future increases, whilst not knowing what the affect due to the rise in population has been, would be irresponsible to say the least.

The existing farm land should be farmed, in order that the UK can continue to produce sufficient crops to maintain foodstuffs and associated crops. We rely too much on imported items already.

It is short sighted to keep building more and more houses in rural areas which would not necessarily meet genuine housing needs, but would create additional traffic, pollution, demand on resources, and make what is already a fast growing locality even more congested.

Water and sewage demand would be substantially affected, something that has already shown signs of being unable to cope during certain weather conditions.

The habitat for the remaining wildlife, which includes Owls, birds of prey, deer as well as the supposedly more common varieties of birds which have already declined in recent years, may disappear for ever.

There is a significant amount of fauna which would also be impacted. Should the area be developed, this would inevitably lead to more "footfall" in the areas of woodland and grassland that is invaluable for these species to exist.

The whole reason for living in a rural community is that areas of open space, without commercial or large residential dwellings, is all around, and available to access without the need to rely on transport to get to areas of recreation and nature. Air quality and light pollution are also factors that quite often get overlooked when the increase of housing and commercial premises takes place.

Public transport would be a major factor in reducing pollution and also enabling the residents of more rural areas, access to amenities that already exist in nearby towns and villages.

Having witnessed the growth on local communities in the immediate area over recent years, it is obvious that the population of these areas no longer have easy access to the amount of open spaces which promotes a healthy outdoor life. They spend more time in isolation, and with larger populated areas, there is definitely less of a community connection with the people that live there.

The roads are becoming increasingly congested, as well as deteriorating significantly due to the volume of traffic using them. Main roads, and rural roads, are all suffering.