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From: jane rouse [REDACTED]
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To: Consultations
Subject: policy C12 chapter 2, Chapter 1 question one chapter 1 question two
Categories: Blue category

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Dear Councillors

I am writing this email to urge you to reconsider including a new "rural settlement of 2000 houses" in unspoiled countryside between Blean, Tyler Hill, and Rough Common.

My reasons why NOT to include it.

This development would be twice the size of the wall part of Canterbury thus destroying wildlife, heritage and agriculture and yet it is being called a rural settlement. It would not be a rural settlement it would be a new town of 2000 houses!! There would no longer be separate villages just one continuous urban sprawl. This sprawling project threatens our precious green space, wildlife, and the very character of our villages and communities.

Canterbury and its surrounding villages are slowly being destroyed by being concreted over. It is a so-called a beautiful place to live in and yet Canterbury City Council approved the most major housing applications last year spoiling our countryside and green spaces. Why?

Kent used to be known as the garden of England but I don't think we are going to have this reputation for much longer if this continued decimation of our countryside is to go ahead.

This site is right in the middle of the Blean Woods area surrounded by various parts of the National Nature Reserve. Birds, animals wildflowers. and nature are in abundance in this area, including the beautiful Sarre Penn Valley which would be lost forever. It would seem completely inconceivable that The Sarre Penn could be used to remove the sewage from the proposed development.

"30 million birds have vanished from our skies in the last 50 years, 97% of our wildflower meadows have been lost since the 1930's, and a quarter of all our mammals are at risk of extinction. We've lost so much, we're now in the bottom 10% of countries globally in terms of nature we have left". (WWF UK)

Local hospitals are now at capacity and breaking point, our local roads are crumbling, there is increased light pollution and doctor's surgeries are not coping with the amount of patients they have. Failing sewage disposal systems would be under greater strain with raw sewage already being pumped into the sea. It would be inconceivable to imagine the Impact 2000 houses would have on this already dire situation.

The area proposed for building is immediately next to multiple conservation areas, heritage buildings and scheduled monuments including a Roman Villa and Medieval Tile Kilns. It would also see houses built on top of the site of a known Iron Age settlement. surely the council should be committed to protecting these "heritage assets".

This 'large-scale car-dependent' development would have a devastating impact on Rough Common Road, blighting properties and changing the whole character of the village. 2,000 houses would equate to some 14,000 movements a day - many of them by car. Rough Common Road therefore would become a major route into Canterbury and Whitstable creating more congestion and affecting air quality. This road is already congested in the morning and evening because of the amount of traffic.

Tyler Hill Road and surrounding roads are narrow winding and hilly. The speed limit is already 30 and would be totally unsuitable for large numbers of traffic.

The proposed development would mean the loss of large areas of good grade 2 and grade 3 agricultural land and yet CCC is supposed to have a commitment to protecting farmland.

And last of all you as councillors were elected by us, to serve us, not to rescue Canterbury University from its financial difficulties.

Regards,
Jane Rouse (Mrs)

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.