

Alexander Gunyon

From: Bob Fearnside [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 May 2024 22:10
To: Consultations
Subject: Draft Local Plan 2040 Policies W3 and W4 (Brooklands Farm)

Categories: Blue category

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

--Email From External Account--

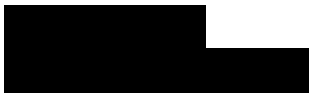
We strongly object to policies W3 and W4 for the following reasons:

- 1 Loss of an area of high landscape value. The CCC Landscape Character Assessment of 2020 recommended that the open rural setting south of Whitstable should be reinforced and any further development in the A299 New Thanet Way corridor should be resisted. The views of the distant Blean are valuable and should be protected.
- 2 Unsuitable place for a large development. A high proportion of commuter traffic would be going into Canterbury, mostly by road, leading to traffic congestion in the North Canterbury area.
- 3 Increased flood risk. Being downstream of the Swalecliffe Brook heavy rain is absorbed into the farmland before evaporating or trickling into the brook. Storage would be required to accommodate rainwater runoff from any urban development but this could not be located close to the brook as that area already floods when the river rises over the banks , as happened in February of this year.
- 4 Valuable farmland. This is top quality farmland and the contribution to the nation's food stocks is of vital importance and once buried under concrete will be of no further use to agriculture.
- 5 Sewage Treatment. Current sewage treatment plant cannot deal with existing waste and is hopelessly inadequate for any further residential development, let alone 1400 new properties.
- 6 Bad for wildlife. With its ancient hedgerows this area is a habitat for sparrowhawks and buzzards, bats and skylarks. Nightingales have also been heard. There are many endangered species, like the great crested newt, which would be increasingly at risk

In conclusion we strongly urge you to reconsider this proposed housing development and continue the preservation of this green field site.

Yours sincerely

Robert and Marianne Fearnside



Virus-free www.avg.com