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From: Cathy McCully [REDACTED]
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To: Consultations
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Subject: Objection to Policy W4 Land at Brooklands Farm.

Importance: High

Categories: Blue category

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Cathy McCully
[REDACTED]

Objection to Policy W4 Land at Brooklands Farm

I have always had a live and let live attitude and never before felt strongly enough to feel a need to register my concern over plans for building works. However, on this occasion, my concern extends to disbelief that it is even being considered.

Such a beautiful rural area with quality agricultural land offering a vital sanctuary for wildlife and contributing to the overall ecological balance of our community.

1) The scale of development in this area is unsustainable. It lacks the infrastructure.

2) Irreplaceable habitats including ancient hedgerows and the Swalecliffe Brook. The significant impact the development would have on the local wildlife and their natural habitats is of grave concern. Birds of prey, sparrow hawks & buzzards etc, use the hedgerows for hunting. Bats are seen regularly across the fields, as is the albino squirrel. An abundance of birds use the hedgerows for nesting. We have regular sightings of woodpeckers, greenfinches, wagtails, goldfinches, and all the usual wild birds.

The destruction of this green space would result in the loss of biodiversity and disrupt the delicate ecosystem that currently thrives in the area. Preserving such natural habitats is essential for maintaining a sustainable environment and ensuring the well-being of future generations.

3) Flooding. We already have a problem with water management, quality and supply.

5) Sewage. Again we already have a well publicised problem.

6) The Swalecliffe Brook flows through the Thanet Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) before joining the north Kent coast to the east of Whitstable, a section of the coast which forms part of the Saxon Shore Way. It runs through Brooklands Farm.

It has been classed as a Salmonid River (trout stream) due to having brown trout and eel, both of which are of conservation significance. There is also the possibility that three-spined sticklebacks will still be present, despite the 2013 sewage dump that polluted the brook at Long rock.

7) Traffic. Our roads in this are narrow and are unable to cope with the amount of extra traffic that will be created by 3000 plus extra cars, not to mention the pollution and noise. The planned new junctions for the A299 would be dispensing traffic onto roads that are ill equipped to deal with it. The additional traffic then going through to Chestfield, South Street and Canterbury will create a significant impact on not only the roads and residents in the area, but going to Canterbury, the road goes through ancient woodland, and pollution and noise etc will have a detrimental impact on wildlife.

I struggle to believe that any town management organisation can possibly believe this to be a good idea. There is widespread loss of confidence in the extreme that it has even been suggested as feasible.

The signs welcoming people to Kent state 'The Garden of England', need to be something we are proud of and maintain.

Thank you for considering these concerns and taking the appropriate, indeed the only possible reasonable course of action in the circumstances.

With respect



Cathy McCully