

## Alexander Gunyon

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**From:** Sam Morgan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 May 2024 21:33  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Draft Local Plan

**Categories:** Blue category

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I am writing to oppose Policy W4 Brooklands Farm. I oppose this plan for the following reasons:

- This plan brings with it an increased risk of flooding in Chestfield. Radfall Road regularly floods at the junction with South Street during heavy rain often leading to the closure of Radfall Road (a main route into Canterbury). Any building on the Brooklands Farm site will reduce natural drainage which will lead to more flooding and road closures on an important bus route.
- Water supply is also an ever-increasing issue in the local area and placing additional strain on the system will increase the already unacceptable number of leaks leading to many homes being without water for prolonged periods and to road closures across the area causing traffic chaos and leading to dangerous levels of congestion on side streets and lanes which are not designed to accommodate the high traffic numbers or large vehicles which are forced to use them.
- Waste water will also be an issue as the sewage works at Swalecliffe are not currently fit for purpose. Regular discharges into the sea have left many sea bathers seriously ill. Thames Water's local plan promotes the use of green spaces to manage the rate of surface water runoff and improve flooding resilience. The development of Brooklands flies is in direct opposition to this plan and would force more surface water runoff into the overstretched sewage system leading to larger and more frequent discharges into the sea.
- Alongside The Blean, Brooklands Farm offers important biodiversity in between the urban areas of Whitstable and Canterbury urban area and provides a habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. Furthermore, the land acts as a green belt between historically and environmentally important Blean and the urban area. Destruction of this would be disastrous for multiple species and potentially catastrophic for the Swalecliffe Brook
- Health services in the area are already overstretched with very few NHS dentist spaces available, long waiting times for appointments at local surgeries and long queues at pharmacies. There are already long waits in A&E departments at local hospitals and a lack of available beds. The addition of 1400 new homes and many more new residents will only serve to place even more pressure on these overburdened services.
- If the decision is taken to develop Brookland Farm in accordance with the plans then we can expect the 1400 homes to bring with them 2296 addition cars to local roads (data based on 2021 census showing an average car ownership of 1.64 cars per household in the Canterbury area). Inadequate traffic plan modelling means that we cannot accurately predict the impact of additional cars but the current poor state of local roads especially regarding potholes can only be made worse by the addition of more cars and therefore increased wear and tear.

I sincerely hope that you will consider these objections alongside the many others I know you have received and will make the correct decision and halt any current or future plans to develop the Brooklands Farm site.