

Alexander Gunyon

From: jean fraser [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 May 2024 17:55
To: Consultations
Subject: Fw: Objection to Planning Application CA/24/00788 relating to Brooklands Farm

Categories: Yellow category, Blue category

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I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed housing development on Brooklands Farm.

My **objections** are that Brooklands Farm is high quality agricultural land, and to turn it into a housing development is just not sustainable. The development is not sustainable for a number of reasons – increased potential for flooding, sewage pollution and the enormous increase in traffic resulting from quite possibly two cars in each of the 1400 extra houses. In addition there is currently a balance between green space and housing, which this development would completely wreck.

Flooding. The proposed development will lose the natural flooding control afforded by the green fields of Brooklands Farm. Once the land is covered by concreted drives, yards, buildings etc this natural drainage will not be able to function.

Sewage. It is well known that Southern Water is unable to cope with the present pressure it is under, let alone supplying an additional 1400 houses.

Brooklands Farm is situated in an area that already faces challenges with flooding & sewage. The increased strain on the existing system due to the additional housing could lead to overflows, pollution of water sources (the Swalecliffe Brook also), and a decline in water quality. 1400 more houses with one or two toilets will add to its already overstretched capacity.

The Swalecliffe Brook, which runs through Brooklands Farm, flows through the Thanet Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) before joining the north Kent coast to the east of Whitstable.

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.

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

Environment/biodiversity. 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. There is a wealth of wildlife on this agricultural land, birds of prey, woodpeckers, goldfinches, wagtails and many more which would all be lost to the area. Losing this green space to housing and everything else included in the application could never be reversed – its loss is unthinkable.

In conclusion, **I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed housing development on Brooklands Farm, planning application CA/24/00788.** It is essential to thoroughly evaluate and address these concerns to avoid any

negative consequences for both residents and the environment. Preserving the Brooklands Farm green field site, mitigating sewage issues, protecting wildlife and its habitats, and preventing flooding should be of utmost importance. It is crucial to explore alternative options that prioritise sustainable development and do not compromise the well-being of our community and environment.

Thank you for reading this – I trust you will do the right thing having considered all the issues which I and many other residents have raised and reject this application.

From:
Jean Fraser

