I object to R8 on the following grounds:

**Excessive urbanisation** outside of the Littlebourne settlement boundary which has been artificially and illogically redrawn to fit the proposals. Government advice states: within the countryside, new housing development will only be supported where it protects the rural character and appearance of the countryside’ – this proposal to place a further 50 hoses on green belt grade 1 agricultural land is, thus, not supported

Plan R8 (50 houses) would lead to a **permanent loss of the best Grade 1 agricultural land**.

**Adverse effect on Landscape** characteristics with damage to views particularly towards the east (R8).

**Harm to designated heritage assets** on A257 and the associated conservation area.

**Lack of traffic assessment** in the draft plan of potentially adverse effects on Littlebourne traffic density, pollution, and risk to pedestrians on the already width-constrained The Hill (A257), Bekesbourne Lane and the narrow Jubilee Road related to both R7 and R8 which would be further compounded by the other major proposed developments along the A257.

Takes no account of the **poor capacity of existing wastewater (aka sewage) infrastructure and management in our catchment.** In Littlebourne and other local villages, these shortcomings already result in regular, persistent and disruptive emergency measures, including pumping of sewage into the Little Stour and tankering of sewage to Canterbury’s Wastewater Treatment Works located upstream of Stodmarsh (500 tankers in 2021/22 winter).  The proposal for sewage treatment on site lacks credibility, and would still impact the Little Stour catchment.

Tanker deployment (above), in particular, has a significant adverse nutrient effect at the Stodmarsh internationally-designated sites and therefore f**ails to meet the legal requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017**.

R8 lacks a forward plan to address multiple impacts of **increasing surface water run-off from urbanisation on flooding along Nargate Street and on the water quality in the Little Stour**- a rare example of a chalk stream enjoyed by many local inhabitants.

**Such water-related issues will become far more significant as a result of bothR7 and R8 delivering a near 50% increase in village population, and the effects of climate change.**Both factors will result in greater flows of both surface water and wastewater.

The Local Plan must carefully consider **how substantial housing development and associated water-based pollution can be kept consistent with stated objective of habitat protection and biodiversity enhancement by 20% during implementation.**

Both proposals **do not meet sustainable development standards** as there is no proposal for consequential increased local employment and most work would require travel away from the area, thus transforming Littlebourne into a dormitory.

**There exists a proven total lack of local support** for the developments, given that The Laurels estate has only recently been competed.  Even a previous development proposal on the south side of the Hill of 115 houses was rejected by 96% of villagers in a 2019 parish council poll.

**Insufficient detail in infrastructure plans**.   That consequential necessary infrastructure requirements such as sewers, school, GP surgery, public transport, walking / cycling routes would likely either lag way behind any development or fail to be implemented at all.

 Concerning the Canterbury Landscape Character and Biodiversity Appraisal Draft (August 2012), the application sites lies within the South Canterbury and Littlebourne Fruit belt. This document refers to the high-quality grade 1 agricultural land intensively farmed traditionally as orchards and hops but giving way to arable with strong field patterns. The visual unity is described as being generally coherent. Its condition is described overall as moderate. It is summarised as a moderately sensitive landscape overall, comprising sensitive exposed ridgelines and less sensitive enclosed valleys.

The applicants make much of the fact that the site is not subject to any landscape designations. Nonetheless, the site is representative of the key characteristics of the landscape character area within which it lies, be that at national, county-wide or District level. It is an excellent example of the rural landscape and an integral part of a strong and regular pattern of fields and orchards enclosed by tree shelter belts.

 There are several views over the application site from The Hill and from the properties on the eastern side of The Hill which face out over the application site. It is also seen from various viewpoints along roads, bridleways and public footpaths to the west and south. From these various viewpoints the application site is an important and integral part of the rural landscape to the south-west of the village.

Although this landscape is not rare, that does not diminish its value. Its value flows from the fact that it is representative of the typical local landscape character and is an integral part of a wider rural landscape. That landscape is valued not only by being part of wider countryside but also because of its juxtaposition to the built confines of Littlebourne, the way in which it contributes to the setting of the village and the significance and importance of the surrounding countryside to those who live, work in and visit the village