

I would like to express my objection to the Draft Local Plan 2045 of the inclusion of the sites R15 and R16 for Littlebourne.

This is for a variety of health and safety reasons.

1. This land is prime arable land which is consistently used for crop growing. I understood that as a country we should become more sustainable in our food production to reduce our carbon footprint. This area is consequently particularly important to be maintained as agricultural land.
2. The building of houses on the proposed site would substantially increase the number of vehicles moving through the village. There is already increased traffic due to various new developments along the A257. At times there is congestion from queueing vehicles. This will heavily impact on air quality and noise, badly affecting the health of residents including those with health problems and children.
3. The Laurels new development in Littlebourne has shown that most properties have 2 cars and in some cases there is already insufficient parking on their property so parking is on the roads. Building on the proposed site will significantly increase the number of car movements, noise and air quality.
4. There is no pathway on the side of the A257 where the proposed site is. To access any part of the village, residents there will need to cross the busy road where vehicles have been recorded travelling in excess of 46mph. Those arriving by bus from Canterbury will also need to cross the road, including children returning from secondary schools.
5. There is no cycle path to Canterbury, so car or bus are the only means of safe transport in and out of the village.
6. Any 'affordable' housing being built is not affordable to most young people of the village. From personal experience having 2 sons who lived in Littlebourne from birth, a young, single person on an average salary is unable to get a mortgage sufficient to afford such a property. Consequently they have to leave the village. Building on this site will not address the needs of the young from the village.
7. The local primary school is oversubscribed. Some parents from the village now have to drive their children to primary schools elsewhere. This increases traffic problems as well as reducing the reason many choose to bring their children up in a village community.
8. The village doctors' surgery is already at capacity. Some elderly already have to travel to surgeries elsewhere when unwell or needing frequent tests.
9. There are already wastewater management issues in Littlebourne with tankers being brought in to deal with some of the problems. During periods of heavier rain, parts of the village become flooded and the infrastructure is not sufficient to deal with this. The existing system already could not cope before the Laurels 87 properties were built. If up to 300 houses are built on the proposed site, I understand that there is no legislation for improved infrastructure. If the infrastructure is overwhelmed, pollutants would not be able to be treated and run off into local freshwater sources. This cannot be good for health or safety of residents of this and the surrounding villages and would surely be unacceptable. The Little Stour is a chalk stream and under law protected. I understand that tanker deployment, in particular, has a significant adverse nutrient effect at the Stodmarsh internationally-designated sites and therefore **fails to meet the legal requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.**

As a resident of Littlebourne, I feel the development of this site would be harmful particularly on the grounds of health and safety. This is already being compromised by the above factors and cannot cope with further development.