

R15 & R16 COURT HILL & BEKESBOURNE LANE DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIONS

1st Jan. 2023.

Dear Sirs,

In addition to the more obvious objections to additional building in the village, I would point out that the most commonly used access into the village would be via Jubilee Road, which is currently totally unsuitable to more than existing local traffic and essential on street parking. It is currently the only lawful route east/west, across the village for HGV lorries and articulated lorries up to 42 tons. These lorries feed Kelseys Fruit Farm at Wickhambreaux and also businesses at Builders Square.

Modern online shopping means numerous daily delivery vans accessing the village (usually at speed). The Primary School is only 40 yards from the junction, with Jubilee Road and the articulated lorries that struggle to round the corner into Church Road, then have to navigate past the numerous parent vehicles that frequent the area twice daily.

Additional housing means added school parking problems (there is no off-road parking for parents dropping children off at the school) and it is not known how many more pupils the school can accommodate.

Nargate Street is the only east/west road permitted for double decker buses travelling to Wickhambreaux and beyond. The junction with the A257 High Street is extremely dangerous at this point when buses enter or exit Nargate Street because of its narrow width and the fact that they will not give way to smaller oncoming vehicles which occasionally have to reverse out onto the A257 High Street! It seems the only way to alleviate traffic problems in our village is to have an additional east/west access road.

One proposition would be a new road from the top of Evenhill, via a roundabout across the bottom of Littlebourne Woods and pick up the trackway leading to Brick Kiln Cottage. This gives access to the top of Court Hill where a 2nd roundabout would slow traffic entering the village. The new road could then carry on across the top of the R16 development and down to the Wickhambreaux Road near to White Bridge. The additional benefit of a roundabout at the top of Evenhill would mean safe access to the R15 development should that ever go ahead. Bekesbourne Lane is totally unsuitable for additional vehicles as it has no footpath for its entire length and it is a very dangerous blind junction with the A257 Littlebourne High Street.

The sewerage system built in 1952 is now creaking at the seams and is now completely unfit for purpose, as witnessed by the considerable emergency tankering of sewage/ground water during the floods of 2021.

Further building only adds considerably to the ground water run off as well as the sewage disposal issue which all put our beautiful and rare chalk stream, the Little Stour, at greater risk.

Population of Littlebourne – data from the UK Office for National Statistics, census returns.

Year	Population
1821	698
1921	894
2021	1603

Since 1821 the only major addition to village through traffic is Jubilee Road. The village was laid out for horse and cart and remains in that state.

We respectfully request that you give due consideration to all points raised by residents of Littlebourne who are not against reasonable improvement of our area but are against lowering the safety and quality of life of those who already live in this our beautiful village.

Yours faithfully

David G Chalk
Deb Chalk

Peter Chalk
Jane Chalk