

[REDACTED]

13th January 2023

Consultations @canterbury.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Proposal for housing estate at Brooklands Farm

I have several comments regarding the referred proposal. In no order of priority they are:

1. Whitstable town centre is already extremely crowded and the proposed development would only make matters worse. Services, such as fire and ambulance, could be adversely affected with a more crowded town blocking or delaying their work.
2. The railway line serving the town and running roughly parallel to the coast has the effect of reducing access from Whitstable, Tankerton and Swalecliffe on the coastal side to the south side of the railway. There are only four routes which are-
Road with traffic lights under railway bridge at Canterbury Road
Road over hump back bridge at Church Street/ Castle Street junction.
Road over hump back bridge at Ham Shades Lane
Road under railway bridge at Swalecliffe shops.
None of these are ideal and probably cannot take more traffic.
3. It is widely reported that people need access to nature for both their mental and physical health. The proposal has the effect of driving the country further away from those living in the town centre and so is counter productive to that. Brooklands Farm should be retained as farmland or become whatever the natural environment was in the area before farming pushed it out. Either way I submit it should not be built on.
4. Such a development would produce extra work for council planning department and possibly others. The council is already clearly stretched to carry out its traditional responsibilities, with strong limitations on cash available.
5. Finally, I am not aware of any evidence that the birth rate is increasing in this area. So I presume that there is no need for extra housing.

Thanking you taking time to read my comments

Yours sincerely,

Gordon Alston