

Comments on the local plan

Supporting village centres

It is said that all properties in Hoath except a select few properties on Marley Lane have access to superfast broadband, with a sustainability score of 10. This is not true. The internet has been a vital for me to work as a local primary school teacher when, during the pandemic I had to be online to teach remotely. The instability of the connection was a huge problem and often resulted in lessons being cut off and children facing further disruption to their education. At Maypole, we have been to the Ombudsman in order to try and get High Speed Broad Band, so that I could work efficiently. They were very clear in telling me that this was not possible at the moment, and the overhead cables mean the service, like our electricity supply, can be quite temperamental.

Traffic Maypole Road and through Hoath

Currently, there are numerous large tankers travelling to and from the digestive pit at Chislet Forstal, (which was extended without planning permission). These are going along the Maypole Road and through the centre of Hoath approximately every 20 minutes and do not have number plates. On route to work in the mornings I have been run off the road by said vehicles at the bottom of Ford hill into large pot holes. This has caused significant damage to my car and I have had to pay to get it repaired. Furthermore, the Maypole Road is in disrepair, it has huge potholes on both sides of the road. With the continuing traffic this damage is increasing daily. Our Canterbury City Councillor has said it would be possible to put speed restrictions and traffic calming on the Maypole Road, and have the need for this listed on the Local Plan. I sincerely hope you will oblige with this.

Land behind Church Farmlisted on Local Plan SLAA202.

I object to the inclusion of this site on the local plan.

- 1) The village school and playgroup are listed as local facilities, although both currently have a very limited number of places. Admissions are based upon location, a new development would force children from surrounding hamlets- a small walk away, out of the village school.

- 2) The size proposed is inappropriate for the centre of Hoath, which already has several new housing developments, and would cause further road damage with the increasing population.
- 3) As the bus route was recently removed, new residents would be forced to use cars to commute to Canterbury, Herne Bay or further, with a consequent increase in pollution and use of already overcrowded narrow roads in an increasingly poor state of repair.
- 4) The area is high grade agricultural land should not be used for development. Furthermore it would fill in the centre of Hoath and the hamlet of Maypole, destroying the natural beauty that is there currently.

Land behind Marley Lane to be used as Solar Farm SLAA280

I object to the inclusion of this site on the District Plan.

- 1) The proposed 101 hectare Solar Energy Farm between Hoath and Chislet, is much too large to put between two rural villages.
- 2) A large proportion of this site is high grade farmland, which should be used for the production of food.
- 3) The proposed site goes right up to peoples' boundary fences, which will cause an unacceptable level of noise pollution.
- 4) The enormous buildings which house the battery storage are unsightly and ruin the character of the area.
- 5) During the initial zoom meeting residents were told that fencing would be necessary for security reasons. This will destroy the wonderful views which are found along the number of public right of ways that are found over the proposed site.

I do walk this area regularly, and would be extremely sad to see this plan go ahead.

