



CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Canterbury Area Draft Local Plan to 2045: Policy C6 Land at Merton Park

1 message

Rachel Jones [REDACTED]

16 January 2023 at 11:08

To: "consultations@canterbury.gov.uk" <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Dear Policy and Strategy Team,

As residents of Canterbury, we wish to express our strong opposition to the proposed Merton Park development.

This site is wholly unsuited to the size of the project that is proposed. We are especially concerned about how this development will rob the community of needed green space. This space provides thousands of local people with a valuable resource to protect physical and mental health, as demonstrated during lockdowns.

The development proposed will undoubtedly increase traffic, especially through use of a football stadium. Research shows that the availability of accessible green space is critical in helping to maintain the collective mental health of communities. A likely increase in traffic will have a hugely negative impact on the potential for quality of life for many people.

Our family and many other people use this accessible green space, including the orchards, on a regular basis. We do not believe claims that this development will offer sufficient social housing to justify such a loss of green space, with all the benefits it currently confers on communities both now and into the future.

In addition, if this proposed development goes ahead, it is very unlikely that the costs to biodiversity can be mitigated. Significantly, it is also likely to bring an increased risk of flooding downhill.

Please register our opposition in the strongest possible terms.

Yours faithfully,
Rachel and Andrew Jones