



CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Response to Draft Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045

3 messages

Mike Gallagher [REDACTED]

16 January 2023 at 16:18

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

Response to Canterbury City Council Draft Local Plan to 2045

Dear Sir/Madam,

1) Nine local authorities in England have paused or scaled back their plans after Michael Gove announced last month that the government would no longer pursue a mandatory target of 300,000 new homes a year, a Guardian analysis has found and published yesterday. These included Thanet and Medway and joined nearly 30 other authorities that made similar decisions. In your documentation you mention that the Government legally sets your targets and that (by implication) your own views and those of your residents count for nothing. In view of this latest Government decision shouldn't the feelings of your residents now take precedence?

2) You have now created the category of Rural Service Centre and put Littlebourne into it. Over the thirty years that I have lived here, I have seen the five shops dwindle to one – funded through the Parish Council and other Parish's involvement and recently the bus service has been curtailed to two per hour, rather than the three that ran until just before Christmas 2022.

3) Villagers from our neighbouring area invariably bring their cars to use our shop and also to catch the only bus service that runs regularly (No 43) – the No 11 service being now non-existent. Our Village car park is their first resort in these cases.

4) The local roads are becoming traffic clogged at rush hours and are only quieter mid-morning and mid-afternoon. These roads are for the most part only country lanes and regularly become rat-runs for people using them as short cuts to and from Canterbury and the A2.

5) The Traffic plan is currently unfit for our Village and the full effect of the Laurels development has yet to be felt. The new development proposed on The Hill will mean a considerably greater problem for traffic. The indicated new road emerging on to the A257 will affect that major road's traffic flow and there will be sheer chaos in Bekesbourne Lane precisely at the point where it is impossible for commercial vehicles and farm equipment to even pass each other. There will need to be huge investment in new carriageways along the whole line of Bekesbourne Lane and through to the A2. Where will that investment come from?

6) There is mention of walking routes and cycle tracks – none of the local routes to the Village have any footpaths and the narrow and often winding local roads are a positive hazard to cyclists and motorists alike – especially since most motorists seem to be in an inordinate hurry to get to their destination. Again who will design these footpaths and cycleways and at what cost to the Village?

7) Currently most traffic uses the A257 to get to Canterbury and the rail stations and schools as well as other central facilities. Canterbury City Council is wrestling with the problem of dealing with

traffic arising from their own self-defeating development agenda and there is no clear picture of how that will eventually emerge. Why should Littlebourne become gridlocked for CCC's stupidity?

8) The current water and sewerage system was designed and installed nearly 60 years ago, for a Village that then comprised fewer houses than are being proposed now? Currently we need to use road tankers to take away unprocessed effluent. Who will pay to re-design and to build new facilities? Or will all of this be left to us, the current Villagers to pay for?

9) What provisions will be made for the safe disposal of the additional storm-water that will be arising in future years and increased by the concreting over of vast areas our surrounding countryside?

10) The proposal under R14, R15 and R16 to add a further 350 houses (in addition to the 100 already built since 2018) will increase the Village by a further 45% raising our population to around 3000 – why do current residents need this and who will these houses be for? The development at The List (as yet incomplete) is inhabited almost entirely by new folk to the Village because there was a tiny housing need before the current plan. Isn't this an indication that the sole purpose of developer interest is making a profit.

11) The loss of another significant area used for the growing of our food will be irreplaceable. What will be done to compensate future populations when more has to be imported?

12) Littlebourne has received some tempting offers in the provision of additional amenities for us. None of these have ever been completed. What legal action can be taken to compel developers and landowners to honour commitments and who will provide that compulsion?

13) The extra shops that are being spoken of in The Hill development will spell the death knell of our local enterprise and what will happen should they not prove to be a commercial success? Derelict buildings and vandalism in our midst? How are people supposed to get to them using a car – will it be better to drive up The Hill and then turn right into the new estate or to use the current route to Bekesbourne Lane and then turn up the road into the new estate – and of course to get back home safely? These are practical issues that will have to be determined. There is also the issue of how a pedestrian gets across the A257 (and back again) safely on dark nights?

14) We have a very stretched set of public services in this nation now – a small town (as Littlebourne will now become) deserves adequate policing, fire safety, increased Surgery facilities – who will provide these at a time when there are even bigger towns being proposed in our vicinity?

15) Please do not tell us that the Developer's will pay for all of these changes – we are talking here of millions of pounds of expenditure.

Yours truly,

M J Gallagher

Andrew Thompson
To: Rachel Carnac

16 January 2023 at 17:12

Cc: CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Thanks Rachel

Team - can you add this one too please?

On Mon, 16 Jan 2023 at 16:57, Rachel Carnac [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Andrew,

Another one - you may already have it.

Best wishes,

Rachel

[Quoted text hidden]

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Andrew Thompson

Corporate Policy and Strategy Manager

Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW

[REDACTED]

Ben Fitter-Harding [REDACTED]

16 January 2023 at 17:40

To: CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mike Gallagher** [REDACTED]

Date: Mon, 16 Jan 2023 at 16:52

Subject: Response to Draft Canterbury District Local Plan to 2045

[REDACTED]

[Quoted text hidden]

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Ben Fitter-Harding

Leader

Conservative Councillor for Chestfield Ward

Canterbury City Council

[REDACTED]