

CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Public consultation objection - R1, R20, R22

1 message

Katrina Jordan

16 January 2023 at 13:56

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

Dear sirs,

Please see the below objections to R1, R20 and R22 in the local plan to 2024, which I would like recorded.

Many thanks,

Katrina Jordan

R1: STRONGLY OBJECT

Building 3,200 homes adjoining a small community village of only a couple of hundred homes where the new development would increase the size of that community tenfold is an atrocity.

The strong community spirit will be completely lost.

There has already been more than 1,000 homes built in neighbouring Aylesham and the pressure on services already experienced by residents is at capacity.

The "main" road B2046 is a one-lane each way winding country road which is not designed or capable of dealing with the volume of traffic the proposed additional homes would cause - already it is prone to accidents which close the road and any diversion can ONLY be via single-track lanes wholly unsuitable for large vehicles or volume of traffic. None of these roads have been improved since the expansion which has already happened and no plans to improve the road network is included in the Plan.

Already the water pressure in homes has at least halved since the expansion of Aylesham - and this was only 1/3 of the proposed ADDITIONAL homes in the Plan. The water provision is not sufficient.

Children already struggle to get secondary school places, the proposed site being at the edge of school intake boundaries. There are plans for 2 more primary schools, but no secondary schools - where are these children meant to go?!

We have no dentist, no pub, no supermarket - to name but a few services and amenities already lacking in our community & not included in the Plan.

Not to mention, this is ripe and productive farmland providing much needed grain to feed our Nation. The land is not even for sale and loss of the farmland would be a huge blow to our community including the farm jobs and rural lifestyle of our residents, the flora and fauna here which we are so proud of - including many species of owls for example, already we can see the terrible light pollution from Thanet Earth and we need to retain these rural areas for wildlife to have normal living and breeding spaces.

This is a terrible idea.

In addition to the comments in the section above, where will all the waste water go?

I have lived in East Kent all my life and have never known so much sewage dumping into the sea. It is disgusting and irresponsible. Before the council starts building more homes, issues such as sewage dumping, water pressure, the abysmal road networks, services such as lack of dentists, secondary schools, jobs etc need to be addressed. The public transport in this area is heavily suppressed, with recent losses of bus routes, only 1 bus in the morning and 1 in the evening at a single bus stop in Adisham, and only 1 train an hour. The station isn't even manned and buying train season tickets is all but impossible - especially for a child as this can't be done online. In short, amenities and services and transport links are already wholly insufficient and not proposed to be improved in the Plan.

R20: TEND TO OBJECT

Aylesham has already had significant development, but no improvements have been made to the road network, the roads around R20 being predominantly single track roads and the only "main" road, the B2046 already suffering more accidents and heavier volume of traffic as a result of the significant existing development at Aylesham.

All these houses have already been built, yet we still struggle to get our children into secondary schools, we still have no main supermarket, we still have no dentist locally, we still struggle to get GP appointments, we still have water supply (water pressure) issues, and we still don't even have a pub! Not to mention our railway station isn't even permanently manned any more which causes untold problems and stress as the nearest place you can buy a children's season ticket for school is at least 20 mins away in either Canterbury or Dover.

These essential factors such as amenities, healthcare and transport & school links absolutely NEED to be improved before ANY further housing development is considered. HUNDREDS more houses with no additional facilities or transport improvements is simply not reasonable and would significantly adversely affect the quality of life for existing residents.

R22: STRONGLY OBJECT

Whilst I don't necessarily object to a VERY SMALL number of houses being added to the Adisham / Cooting community, the proposed site here is entirely wrong. It is on prime agricultural land which is productively farmed and not for sale, and its location for housing would be terrible. The road to which it is proposed to adjoin is a single track country lane which ends in a byway, and visibility on that corner is already really bad and an accident waiting to happen. There is nothing that can be done to improve it as there is already one house there, and to further build up the area would cause major visibility and road safety problems. There is a bus which uses that road twice a day and on occasion when there are problems on the B2046 e.g. an accident, then lorries use Station Road as a main thoroughfare - which is totally unsuitable anyway but this section that R22 proposes to build houses along is exactly on a pinch point where the road narrows as it goes under the railway bridge and other vehicles wouldn't see any hazard until the very last minute due to the bends in the road. To reduce visibility and traffic further by building even a couple of houses right here would be utter madness.