

CCC Consultations <consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>

Canterbury Local Plan objections

1 message

Gregory Jones KC

13 February 2023 at 12:50

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

Dear Sir /Madam.

I live with my family at in Fordwich. I have also been instructed by Fordwich Town Council and residents by James Smith Planning Services Ltd with Michael Feeney of counsel, to draft representations and objections to CCC in respect of the reg 18 Plan- my family and myself those representations along with the Topic Papers. These will be served on CCC before the 4 pm deadline.

I therefore do not repeat those representations but they should be treated as forming part of my own and my family's objections and representations.

CCC needs to take a bold step it says; but it must be an effective solution which is sustainable and secures a reduction in car use. Building houses without infrastructure being in place first is unsustainable. But that is what the reg 18 plan provides.

The EMC and ring road (if it comes about) will be a disaster both environmentally and socially and likely to increase car useage, GHG, and urban sprawl. The delay in bringing it forward will have hugely adverse consequences because the flawed transport solution will not even be in place to deal with the volume house builder estates the plan is looking to promote.

As a world heritage site, CCC should be looking to develop a mass transport system for Canterbury with central government funding -the historic core does not prevent a tram, trolley bus or guided system being in place. I assisted in promoting the Cambridge Guided bus.

The two main line stations should be linked by efficient public transport.

Instead, we have a plan which seeks to meet the full OAN - one of the few if but only conservative councils in the south east so to do, with no regard to the heritage and environmental constraints which mean that is not possible to achieve in a sustainable manner without huge damage. The transport strategy is also utterly misconceived and flawed with no sound evidence base. It is based on spreading increased congestion around the district.

Turning to Fordwich, the reg 18 plan does not plan positively for Fordwich at all- the EMC currently preferred route has not been properly assessed and it would destroy a conservation area, an ancient woodland and important landscape features. It will also destroy site of likely high archaeological importance.

Instead, the CCC should be looking to address the harm done to the historic town by the rat run through unsuitable roads of traffic and parking. The listed bridge and listed house are regularly damaged - and the council does nothing. This can be achieved without the EMC which is not intended to relieve Fordwich in any event. There has been no consultation with FTC in the formulation of these policies.

Whilst I understand the fear of not adopting a plan - but this is massively outweighed by the flaws in this plan this plan is throughly bad and ill conceived. It is difficult to know whether it be less worse if the plan succeeds than if it fails.

The best route is to start again and the sooner that is done the better.

I would be able to discuss these matters with the council.

Yours ever,

Gregory Jones



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