

Response to Proposals to the Neighbourhood Plan for development in Chartham

22 September 2025

From:

Will Lacey, [REDACTED]

N22 Rattington Street – for 170 new houses

I do not support this proposal for these reasons:

- Increased traffic and accompanying issues with noise, air quality pollution, effect on climate change with more cars and highway safety
- The plan needs a PROPER TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT – the roads are already a danger and too narrow for the current amount of traffic, plus there is no parking at the train station
- Effect on what is a conservation area and an area of outstanding natural beauty
- Additional strain on current water drainage and sewage resources already at breaking point as evidenced by recent road closures to repair water leaks and foul smells along Cockering Road
- Visual impact and the effect to the landscape character of Chartham
- The previous planning decisions including the appeal decisions were all failed
- Effect on the environment with nature conservation within the ancient woodland on the site being disrupted
- Additional strain on NHS GP surgeries and the current primary school.

N31 Chartham Paper Mill – 165 new dwellings, shopping and community facilities and open space

I support these mixed development proposals as development on brownfield sites is to be encouraged and the area does need further housing that is affordable.

It will make what is currently an eyesore and causing issues with contamination a focal point in the village near the station that would attract visitors from nearby.

It does need a masterplan before agreement.

I would agree that a creative element to the site would be a welcome addition and would make it a unique space.

N3 New Park & Ride Thanington Recreation Ground – loss of sports pitches

I do not support this proposal as that area of green is the only one that the current estate across the road has access to on foot. With the addition of the latest houses at the back of Thanington there are even more family households that have little or no green space to use in an area of quite serious deprivation. The skate park and playground provide a much needed area for children and families to use within walking distance at minimal or not cost to them. If the site was moved to Merton Park many without suitable transport would not be able to access it at all, leaving no facilities available.

There is already a park & ride at Wincheap – and also the large industrial estate close by where many areas are not occupied. This would seem a better place to consider another larger park & ride without taking away this precious green space, surely a public health issue for those residents of Thanington.

N1 Merton Park – new sports hub (mitigation for Thanington) and 1930 dwellings

I support this proposal for new dwellings and an accompanying sports hub but **without the mitigation proposal for Thanington**. Thanington requires some community space, even more so now there are new developments at Thanington, Nackington and beyond.

Can we not have both?

Intensification and regularisation to traveler sites

I support this proposal and it makes sense to regularise this situation to give the occupants some security.