

# Wickhambreaux Parish Council

Locum Parish Clerk: Gail Hubbard,  
[REDACTED]  
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Andrew Thompson  
Corporate Policy & Strategy Manager  
Development Management  
14 Rose Lane  
Canterbury  
CT1 2UR

14<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Mr Thompson

## **RE: Wickhambreaux Parish Council response to the Canterbury Local Plan focused Consultation**

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the next iteration of the Local Plan. We have discussed this at our most recent Parish council meeting and would like to make the following points.

### **Removal of Car Parks in Canterbury**

Wickhambreaux Parish Council are concerned to see the removal of many of the car parks in the city. It is important to take account of rural communities surrounding the city as we are sure you would agree. We presume that this part of the plan is driven by the need to find viable brownfield sites for housing.

However, parts of the plan will reduce vital accessibility for rural communities. Wickhambreaux Parish Council area is made up of three rural community areas. One is poorly served by a very limited bus 'service', which we have had to lobby to retain in the last few years. It is critical for our children to get to and from school in the city and many of our residents who don't drive. It provides two buses a day. Our other two communities have no access to a bus service at all and therefore, have to drive.

The two car parks that we are particularly concerned about losing are connected to access to NHS services

We recommend that the Northgate Car Park should remain. The Northgate Medical Practice whose entrance is from that car park can be used for outpatient appointments by rural residents, and it's reasonable to expect to be able to park close to the premises.

In addition, we recommend that Holmans Meadow car park is also retained. Lombard House has an entrance from the car park. The specialists here deal with diagnosis and prevention of eye problems, using high resolution imaging. Most of their clients walk out with drops in their eyes to dilate them. Vision is considerably reduced, everyone is advised not to drive, and it can be painful to be in bright light. The clients have to be transported by another, but having a car park close to the premises minimises the time taken to get home and recover.

**Ref N7 The Hill Littlebourne**

We noted this is still in the plan which we were surprised and concerned to see as this has recently been rejected by CCC as a site for housing. We fully support the reasoned request from Littlebourne Parish Council asking for this to be removed from the local plan.

**Ref N5 and N4 Land south of Littlebourne Road.**

Again concern was raised that the infrastructure that is in place does not seem to be significant enough to cope with the development of a park and ride this far out of the city and the increase in traffic to get to it and from it. Access to the city centre on the A257 is already considerable with congestion reaching back to Polo Farm at peak times. The provision of two additional access points onto the Littlebourne Road will add to this congestion.

We do hope consideration can be given to these important areas when the plan is finalised.

Yours sincerely



Gail Hubbard  
Locum Parish Clerk  
Wickhambreaux Parish Council