
Local Plan Section C12

From Timothy Bentley [REDACTED]
Date Thu 10/16/2025 3:09 PM
To Consultations <Consultations@canterbury.gov.uk>
Cc Julia Kirby-Smith [REDACTED]

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

--Email From External Account--

Dear Planners,

I was very pleased to hear of the decision made by Canterbury City Council to delete section C12 from the local plan. Your decision was based on:

- concern about suitable access to the site
- the effect on the highway network, something that National Highways had highlighted as well
- the impact on ecology and in particular the loss of ancient woodland
- the cost of developing a new site for Blean Primary School

Today , however, we have heard of the University of Kent's decision to cease working alongside the Save the Blean campaign in the development of Bio Parks on University of Kent's land and instead to work with an independent company to develop the site for 2,000 houses as proposed originally.

The involvement of the University with a private sector housing developer is a disgrace since it implies that public funds will be used to generate planning permission when there is no public support for the development. It is also unacceptable for the governing body of the University to fail to communicate with both the City Council and the Save the Blean campaign to develop the the Bio Park idea. So much for all the publicity the University generates to show how it works together with the community!

Even with the dismissal of the C12 planning proposal, it was inevitable that further University extensions would be needed for additional teaching and laboratory facilities in due course. These could have been fitted in within a Bio Park concept without giving up the whole potential of the site to domestic housing.

Having been subjected to building works on land adjacent to the Royal Oak public house since June 2025 existing residents in that area have been subjected to excessive noise and dust 6 days per week. The approval of this development involved a specialist house developer. Despite local opposition to the plans focussed around the environmental damage that would be caused, the difficulties of building on and draining from clay soil ,plus the effect of additional traffic along the A290, after two public reviews the plans were ultimately accepted. This development involves the construction of a mere 85 houses but provides a model of the kinds of reasons why people see the 2,000 house development as abhorrent.

I very much hope that you will reject any suggestion that the C12 planning proposal should be reincarnated and trust that the University of Kent will recognise that its proposed methods of forcing through its house building plans are not acceptable either to the Council or the people it seeks to represent.

Best wishes

Tim Bentley,

