

**From:** Mike Shaw [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 October 2025 21:35  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Opposition to plans to build on orchards

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

**--Email From External Account--**

Dear sir/madam,

I am a Canterbury resident and am aghast at the proposal to build even more homes in the Wincheap area (Merton Park), including across the orchards.

The proposals to destroy the Blean and Thanington rec are awful enough, but this latest suggestion is criminal.

This is a space beloved by the local community, and families use the space year-round for exercise and enjoying being in nature. Watching how the area changes each season is a joy.

Walking through the orchards and the surrounding area is a reminder of historical, rural Kent. There isn't much of the Garden of England left around Canterbury. These plans will leave even less. These are views that pilgrims have looked upon for hundreds of years, as they make their journeys to our great Cathedral. Your plans will kill those views, which are part of our cultural DNA.

It's also one of the few parts of Canterbury left that offers dark skies. The ability to look into the night sky, unaffected by artificial lighting or buildings, is a right that should not be removed for the purposes of greed.

I am deeply troubled by the lack of information regarding transport and infrastructure. Canterbury is already over-populated, with a hospital unfit to serve the growing population. Placing even more people in the city is going to make that problem worse.

Traffic in and around Canterbury is unmanageable as it is, with every new "idea" worse than the last. Thousands more families and vehicles in the area will catastrophically affect existing residents - the people who should be listened to and respected.

There is plenty of old housing stock in and around Canterbury that can and should be looked at, before resorting to this sort of environmental and cultural vandalism.

Yours,

Michael Shaw