

Tom Hawkes

From: Ellie Patten [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 October 2025 09:06
To: Consultations
Subject: Formal Objection to Proposed Development N32 – Rattington Street, Chartham, Kent

--Email From External Account--

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed construction of 170 houses on the greenfield site at Rattington Street, Chartham (Planning Application N32).

This proposal would have a profoundly negative impact on our village and its residents for several reasons:

1. Strain on Local Infrastructure:

The existing infrastructure in Chartham is already under significant pressure. Local roads, education, healthcare, and utilities cannot support an additional 170 households without substantial upgrades. There are no credible plans in place to provide the necessary improvements.

2. Traffic, Safety, and Pollution:

The routes through Chartham are already heavily congested, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up times at Chartham Primary School. The proposed development would introduce hundreds of additional vehicle journeys each day, greatly worsening congestion and air pollution.

The narrow rural roads in and around Rattington Street are not designed to accommodate this level of traffic. Increased vehicle movements would heighten the risk of accidents, especially for children walking to and from the primary school, as well as for pedestrians, cyclists, and local wildlife. The safety of all residents would be put at risk.

3. Environmental Impact and Flood Risk:

The proposed site is greenfield land that currently supports natural drainage and provides habitat for a range of wildlife. Developing it would remove this important natural flood buffer and increase surface water runoff, heightening the flood risk to nearby properties and the wider area.

4. Loss of Green Space and Village Character:

The open landscape around Chartham is integral to the village's rural charm and community identity. Replacing it with a dense housing estate would permanently alter the character of the area and diminish the quality of life for existing residents.

5. Unsustainable Development Location:

There are numerous brownfield sites across the district that should be prioritised before any consideration of building on unspoiled greenfield land. Development should focus on regenerating previously used land, protecting our countryside and ensuring sustainability.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Council to reject the proposed N32 development and to focus instead on sustainable housing strategies that protect both the environment and the wellbeing of Chartham residents.

Yours faithfully,

Ellie Patten

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