Tom Hawkes

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--Email From External Account--

To whom this concerns,

I am writing concerning the proposed housing project of Merton Park.

I do not want this property development to go ahead. I find it alarming that it is proposed to build 2000 houses on the land between Wincheap School/Allotments and the A2.

I have lived in Canterbury for 45 years. I know this stretch of land that rises on the edge of Canterbury then falls away revealing its beautiful fields and orchards. I know its old quarry, its lines of trees and hedges and its footpaths. The view is truly England in its glory and looking back there is the cathedral looking majestic. THIS is Canterbury, it is a rural treasure, this idyll is here.

Here is found an enormous range of wildlife including frogs, snakes, slow worms, lizards. There are fox dens and badger holes, hedgehogs, bats and species of birds (in decline and rare) found here. The biodiversity is phenomenal and IRREPLACEABLE.

It is madness that this will be bulldozed and hundreds of houses built. I am not against change and I want people to have their own homes but there must be another way other than to raze this natural landscape. Surely to bolt this new housing estate onto existing housing is not only a grotesque form suburban development but bad planning.

Surely if there is genuinely a need for such housing and not just a way of stuffing more money in the pockets of developers then this can be rethought to retain this valuable green space for the community that use it. It is their 'green lung' an essential part of their mental wellbeing.

Therefore I urge you to stop this senseless urban sprawl that takes away our rural spaces and makes our landscape ugly and polluted. Please consider what is being taken away from the people of Wincheap and allow this highly prized landscape to remain as it is.

Kind regards,
Ginny Hawkins

Sent from my iPhone