

**Tom Hawkes**

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**From:** Jennifer Blackmore [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 October 2025 08:04  
**To:** Consultations  
**Subject:** Objection to Proposed Development – N32 Rattington Street, Chartham

[REDACTED]

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

Dear Planning officer,

I wish to object to the proposed development of 170 houses at N32 Rattington Street, Chartham. While I support redevelopment of the brownfield Paper Mill site (N31), the Rattington Street site is unsuitable and unsustainable.

**Highways and Safety:**

Rattington Street is a narrow rural lane with no pavements or cycle paths, connecting via sharp bends and single-track bridges to Station Road and the A28. Traffic congestion and speeding are already serious problems, particularly on Shalmsford Street near the school. Kent County Council has previously judged Chartham unsafe for a Walking Bus scheme. Adding hundreds of vehicles from both new developments would significantly worsen road safety.

**Infrastructure Needs:**

Before any new housing is considered, improvements must be made to local infrastructure for existing residents. The A28 is dangerous with no safe crossing points, and the narrow footpath makes walking unsafe. As a resident of Howfield Lane, I do not feel safe walking into the main village. Investment should focus on pedestrian safety, crossings, and transport links, not large-scale expansion the roads cannot support.

**Environmental and Landscape Impact:**

The site borders conservation areas and productive farmland, providing habitat for bats, owls, and other protected species. Development here would damage the landscape, increase flood risk, and erode the separation between Chartham and St Augustine's, contrary to the Neighbourhood Plan.

As Sir Keir Starmer stated, "Brownfield first... Nobody's talking about building on the countryside. That has to be preserved."

For these reasons, I strongly urge Canterbury City Council to reject this proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer Blackmore  
[REDACTED]