

Tom Hawkes

From: June Hardcastle [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2025 16:56
To: Consultations
Subject: Consultation comments on changes to the draft local plan/October 2025 / June Hardcastle at 16.50hrs 21st. October, 2025

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From: June Hardcastle [REDACTED]
Date: 21 October 2025 at 16:51:48 BST
Subject: Consultation comments on changes to the draft local plan/October 2025 / June Hardcastle at 16.50hrs 21st. October, 2025

I herewith submit my comments for the latest part of the draft local plan consultation:-

Being a mere, retired housewife I have not quoted policies although have read and understand them but the professionals can work my comments into them.

From: June Hardcastle,

[REDACTED]

COMMENTS:-

1). Yes, I agree with dismissing the attempt by the University of Kent to develop their land with so many dwellings. The Blean is an important historical, ancient area rich in biodiversity supporting many flora and fauna and the successful rewilding of Bison and other species. The Blean's transport links were questionable and the potential impact on the existing area would have been catastrophic.

2). No, no, no to the proposed transfer of the failed Blean proposal to land between the scenic and meandering, historic Bekesbourne Lane and the Littlebourne Road (the A257) no way!

I won't duplicate here what others have written in opposition to this site's inclusion in changes to the draft local plan but I totally support all opposing views to this proposed change in the new draft local plan. I know the area exceptionally well having lived on Bekesbourne Hill to the south of the proposed site close by unmanned Bekesbourne train station, for many years and owned two properties there from 1975 till 1995. I then have lived at my current address on Stodmarsh Road, Fordwich, north of the proposed development sites for 37 yrs and been a member of the A257 group for some ten years.

Historic Bekesbourne Lane witnesses many accidents as it serves as a busy rat run short cut for traffic cutting across from the A2 to the A28 beyond Fordwich and visa versa, no way can it support further traffic and any widening would spoil the nature of such a beautiful, meandering, ancient lane. Traffic entering the A257 from this proposed development would add to further serious accidents along that stretch of the

inadequate A257 (another over-turned vehicle last week right by the entrance/exit to the proposed development!).

The geology of this proposed large development site is one of clay beds having moved there from Thanet interspersed with natural springs, totally unsuitable on which to build homes.

The current high volumes of traffic using Bekesbourne Lane are dangerous and unacceptable now so the thought of so much more traffic generated from so many new dwelling proposed here is truly horrific and doesn't bare thinking about!

Recent building developments in this area have been refused so no way should even larger ones be proposed and considered.

As for the proposed park and ride included in this proposal again NO, NO, No! Nutrient neutrality is but a minor point for consideration in this instant even so near to the Lampen Stream which used to flow crystal clear but now is already bubbly and polluted and the amazing rewilding of Beavers at the point of the proposed park and ride is to be celebrated not destroyed. The first time Beavers have been free and wild there in 400 yrs! This proposed park and ride is far too close to Canterbury. The lessons should have been learned from the failing Sturry Road Park and Ride which demonstrates too close to Canterbury doesn't work.

Lastly by proposing any development in this historic and scenic rural part of Canterbury only attracts builders if they can make their money with large detached dwellings not the much needed social housing dwellings! Challenging the governments over their questionably high annual housing numbers projection would be a good start in stopping this draconian proposed development here which will swamp and ruin small close knit communities which it will dominate and destroy, no, no, no!

3) finally on gypsy allocations.

The failing Sturry Road park and ride site is absolutely ideal for a much needed state of the art Canterbury gypsy site to address any shortcomings in future years.

4) other items in this consultation I am not familiar with so am not in a position on which to comment.

Kind Regards,
June Hardcastle (MRS.)

