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The local plan for this area does not appear to me to be either sound or properly prepared.

Water.

We have not long come out of the longest hose ban I can remember. There evidently is not enough water to support the development already under way in the area let alone more. I understand that South East Water themselves have warned of this and I also understand they have not yet responded to questions as to how they will remove pollutants from river water intended to fill the proposed Broad Oak reservoir (Which they do not have the money to build).

Sewage.

Last year Whitstable achieved having one of the top ten most polluted beaches in the country. I swam there as a child, as did my children. There is no way I would allow my grandchildren to do the same. I understand that the sewage treatment plant at Swalecliffe was said by Southern Water to have been 'reconfigured'. What that really meant was a longer outfall pipe to pump often untreated sewage a bit further from shore.

Flooding.

I have seen rainwater running like a river through the hedgerow bordering Brooklands Farm on Chestfield Road (where multi story apartments are proposed) and running North and overwhelming the drains as the stream turned into Cherry Orchard. I have seen cars stranded in the floods under the bypass.

Healthcare.

The fact is that there fewer hospitals here than there were. Last year a family member, a Cancer patient collapsed and was taken to QEQM by Ambulance. We sat through the night in a crowded waiting room in A&E with him in a bad way and semi conscious in a wheelchair. Eventually, he was seen by a Doctor in the early hours and then was moved to the corridor in the same state with many others. We are far from the only people to have experienced this distress and yet Central Government building targets are still driving large developments in East Kent without the supporting infrastructure.

Traffic.

I find it difficult to believe that sound research has been done for traffic modelling around Whitstable. New developments here and in Herne Bay have much increased the traffic on the A2990 which means that I often find the Chestfield and Sainsbury's roundabouts are gridlocked. There is only a narrow footpath under the Railway Bridge and yet it is proposed to build a School on Bodkin Farm. There will surely be children commuting via the station here, have potential safety issues really been taken into account? The proposed developments at both ends of Chestfield will add thousands of cars to the local roads. Thousands.

Developers will often cite the housing needs of local people. However, in reality, the social housing components of large developments in Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable have been bought up by London Boroughs.

Regards,
Brian Holness