

From: [REDACTED]
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To: Consultations
Subject: Comments on the Draft Canterbury District Local Plan

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I write with reference to Policy R13/ R15 in the Draft Canterbury District Local Plan (2042/43). I am a resident of Barham.

The Barham Court Farm site (CF2) is for 22 houses built on brownfield land.

CF2 does not address the issue of affordable housing, particularly for the young and elderly, and provides no contribution to the community infrastructure. It will lead to significantly increased traffic both in The Street and the Valley Road. A left-in/ right-out sign on exiting the CF2 development may deter cars from driving down The Street but the exit on the Valley Road will lead (both under CF2 and R15) to a significant increase in traffic up The Street and Church Lane.

Policy R15 is not 'a modest extension' to the Barham Court Farm site. It doubles the size of the development on greenfield land in an AONB, which the policy does nothing to protect and enhance.

It inserts a large development in the centre of the village which is in danger of becoming very suburban as a result. It represents an over-development of the original farm land.

The classification of Barham as a Local Service Centre does nothing to differentiate Barham from other local service centres. Barham is considerably smaller than for instance Bridge and should be treated accordingly.

R15 does not address the existing problems with traffic, particularly down The Street and near the school.

R15 does not address the cumulative impact of the 2 housing developments on traffic and on the school.

R15 has no proposals to enhance the transport infrastructure beyond a new footway on the eastern side of the road. The vast majority of children even within Barham are delivered to and collected from the school by car.

The bus service is barely adequate and except for school pupils rarely used. Except at the weekend there are few cyclists in Barham.

The access from Valley Road to Barham Court Farm as well as the upgraded bridge over the Nailbourne are both included as part of the CF2 development and should not need including in R15 unless the developer of CF2 intends to ignore the planning permission granted.

R15 contains no proposals to protect and improve the community facilities. The school appears to be over-subscribed in pupil number albeit with many from the neighbouring village of Aylesham which is in the Dover district and has plainly inadequate schooling for the school-age population.

R15 does not address the particular problems in the village with water, drainage and flooding.

R15 is not sound as it fails to address many of the issues the village faces; it should be rejected and SLAA062 should be removed from the plan until such issues are addressed.

I hope that some of these comments will be taken into consideration.

Regards

Nicholas Manby