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28/02/2023

To whom it may concern

WBC LPR Regulation 19 Objection

As a resident of Upper Bucklebury I am writing to lodge my objection to Thatcham North East Development based on the negative impacts this will cause as the proposals are unsound.

Firstly as a resident on [REDACTED] we have already seen increased traffic in the 13 years we have lived next to the traffic calming which results in poor behaviours from drivers who do not obey the priority and constantly hoot at each other at all ours of the day as they speed to slip through ahead of on coming cars. With the addition of a minimum of 1500 houses and the congestion on the A4 Upper Bucklebury will become a rat run to the motorway and the traffic calming will become a dangerous chicane. Additionally the volume of traffic will mean it becomes dangerous to turn in and out of our driveway.

The proposed traffic management is insufficiently and irresponsibly considered and will adversely affect road safety by channelling additional volumes through Harts Hill to Upper Bucklebury. The proposed feed on to Harts Hill will fundamentally change our rural village into a main carriageway similar to the A4. I had hoped to understand the traffic modelling for this junction but it does not appear to have been completed by West Berkshire. Additionally as a family of cyclists we already have to take great care on Harts Hill this additional traffic will create a much more dangerous environment for us, pedestrians in the village and local riders.

Rather than increase opportunities for walking cycling these the proposals will have an adverse affect on current levels based on increased traffic and congestion. The council has failed to demonstrate how these increased opportunities will be created across all residents in the local area.

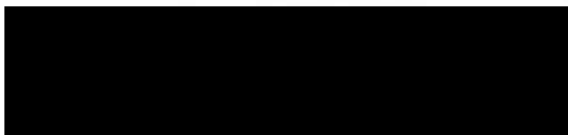
Secondly I would like to raise objection in relation to the impact this development will have on local environment. Wildlife wandering on the common frequently cross the already busy road- additional traffic will create further loss of wildlife. Increase use of the common based on inadequate provision of green space on the proposed sites will have a detrimental impact on ground nesting birds on the common will be impacted by increased traffic speeding through the common.

The local area infrastructure is already at risk from flooding as demonstrated in recent months at the bottom of Harts Hill, water pressure is inadequate despite work completed for a new pumping station resulting in 2 burst water mains this winter alone on Broad Lane. The additional demands for water and sewerage as well as rain water run off onto the A4 will cause significant detriment to the local area.

The Council's support of this development is expedient and ill considered from lack of sufficient consideration of health care provision in line with current guidance from Public Health England. The current level of resources are already over stretched in terms of GP provision and Dentistry and the council and developers have demonstrated insufficient engagement with the integrated health bodies to reassure a genuine concern for the wellbeing of the additional new residents. The proposals in relation to education and school places are also inconsistent and vague and the developers suggested solutions to education requirements are platitudes to ensure approval.

Please listen to local residents and reject this development which is over scales, poorly planned and detrimental to those in the surrounding areas.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Jacqueline Hamilton