Comment for planning application 19/02550/F

Application Number 19/02550/F

Location

Land to the east of M40 and south of A4095 Chesterton Bicester Oxon

Proposal

Redevelopment of part of golf course to provide new leisure resort (sui generis) incorporating waterpark, family entertainment centre, hotel, conferencing facilities and restaurants with associated access, parking and landscaping

Case Officer

Clare Whitehead

Organisation

Name

Anthony Thomas

Address

The Stone Barn,1 Home Farm Close, Chesterton, Bicester, OX26 1TZ

Type of Comment

Objection

Type

neighbour

Comments

I strongly object to this application for a large-scale water theme park in the small village of Chesterton. There is absolutely no need for such a development in this location, nor is it in line with the local development plan. This is currently a beautiful greenfield site providing a healthy sporting facility, which will be lost to a vast, inappropriately sized concreted area with large uncharacteristic buildings for a small village. The 900-space car park indicates the anticipated huge volume of extra traffic that will be travelling to and from the site, bringing with it a substantial increase in noise pollution, not to mention a decrease in air quality and the potentially adding to the associated health issues currently being identified nationally. This will be a private resort attracting a proposed 500,00 visitors, and their vehicles, annually into an area already suffering from severe traffic congestion issues on the M40, A34, A41, A4095 and B430. The infrastructure of the area will simply not be able to sustain this proposed development, to the detriment of thousands of local residents and businesses. The Conference facilities will also attract an unknown but substantial extra number of car movements and resulting congestion. Economically, the development will provide very little benefit to the local area, which already has very low unemployment. It's requirement to employ 600 lower skilled staff will either attract employees away from existing local businesses (already struggling to find staff) or require new employees travelling some distance into the site, thereby increasing car journeys further. (There is no provision for staff accommodation on site). These low-skilled employment opportunities are also contrary to Cherwell's strategic aim of prioritising knowledge-based investment as a priority. This resort will not be open to the public. The possibility of being offered expensive day passes will be solely dependent upon poor hotel occupancy, which is obviously not in the developers' plans! As the majority of guests are encouraged to stay and spend their money on site, there will be negligible economic benefit to the local hospitality industry. I strongly object to this unwanted and unneeded proposal, completely out of keeping with its rural location, and ask that it be refused.

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Attachments