

Comment for planning application 23/02471/F

Application Number	23/02471/F
Location	OS Parcel 0622 South Of Jersey Cottages And East Of Heyford Road Kirtlington
Proposal	Erection of 14 two storey dwellings and upgrading of existing access onto the Heyford Road, together with garaging and parking, footpath link, the removal and re-instatement of a section of existing wall and its repair along the Heyford Road frontage, and landscaping and all enabling development
Case Officer	Jeanette Davey
Organisation Name	Elizabeth Russell
Address	The Glebe, Troy Lane, Kirtlington, Kidlington, OX5 3HA
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Dear Sir/Madam</p> <p>I am objecting to this planning application because of the following:</p> <p>A) The categorisation of Kirtlington I believe is out of date. This is a reason that many different planning submissions are being put forward for Kirtlington as under the MidCherwell Plan it is believed if you are a Category A village, you are able to absorb large developments of housing.</p> <p>We were a Category A village, however several factors mean we may need to be recategorised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The shop has gone (a community shop is being attempted but nothing thus far, and even if successful this will be a skeletal operation)The post office is hardly working (it was closed most of the summer and the owners have moved out of the village with I believe an intention to close completely)The bus timetable has severely reducedOne pub has completely closed with the other only open Wed - SunFurthermore, the mains sewer system is not able to cope with the current dwelling numbers with constant blockages and overflowing. <p>B) The use of the argument that larger villages should have more housing than others, is non-sensical. The fact that we are 'larger' already suggests we have had to incorporate a large number of dwellings already and have therefore had our relevant quota. The reason this needs to be considered is: the development of Gossway Fields and Hatch Way/Close, together with infilling to the North of the village has considerably changed the look, feel and 'workings' of the village with it having four distinct areas. These are: Bletchingdon Road (Gossway fields etc south of the village, Hatch way area (west), North and South Green (Central), and Foxtownsend area (north). These areas already don't necessarily feel like a community together.</p> <p>The categorisation of Kirtlington as A and that it is a 'larger' village are the reasons given for why it could absorb up to 46 more dwellings. I do not agree that these points are valid. They need to be reconsidered and therefore any idea of how many dwellings are appropriate also reconsidered. Thus a planning application for 14 dwellings in one area needs to be reconsidered.</p> <p>C) All of the above leads to the following considerable problem for our English villages: a Suburban effect. I feel very strongly that Kirtlington cannot embrace any more big site housing - creating yet more distinct areas apart from the rest of the village (like Gossway which is actually nearer Bletchingdon than the North end of Kirtlington!). This was cause further impersonalisation, making it feel more like a suburban settlement, than a close-knit village. I believe that 'Kirtlington' has already been enlarged enough for the road structure and facilities it has.</p> <p>D) I am disturbed by the fact we are over and over again having to deal with planning permissions in this already too large settlement. I am outraged that it has come to the 'divide and conquer' method by pitching different sites in and around the village against</p>

each other (North vs South West etc.)

By suggesting we 'must' have housing (which is not correct)- it means villagers from different areas in the village are set against each other - instead of fighting together against the overall proposal. This of course plays into the hands of the developers as each site is now strengthened having less objections per site. I hope other villagers are aware of this.

E) As stated on the Kirtlington website: 'community views are an important part of the process.' Community is everything in a village. It is almost destroyed already... I appeal to the Council to object to this planning application. We are already large enough, we have done our bit as far as large numbers go. We are no longer a Category A village - and even if we were, we are large enough. We must halt ridiculous settlement to maintain what is important - areas where it isn't one big suburban sprawl and the survival of our important COMMUNITY.

To quote from the Government's own pages:

[https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/guidance-and-resources/community-action/community-action-overview/six-guiding-0:](https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/guidance-and-resources/community-action/community-action-overview/six-guiding-0)

What are the benefits of community:

Benefits for the council:

- less reliance on frontline services
- decreased demand for social care and/or low-level support.

Wellbeing benefits:

- people can become role models within their community
- people feel empowered through learning new skills
- reduced social isolation or loneliness
- improved quality of life and better response to crisis events.

Economic benefits:

- higher levels of employment
- benefits to local businesses, such as stronger local economy
- reduction in reliance on welfare support
- training and skills opportunities

Cross-cutting and wider community benefits

- an increase in volunteering and the development of skills among volunteers
- better understanding of the social assets within the local community
- reduced duplication of services
- closer or new partnerships across agencies
- shared learning and joint funding

Yours faithfully

Elizabeth Russell
The Glebe
Kirtlington

Received Date

06/10/2023 14:09:48

Attachments