

From

To Mrs Clark Whitehead

The Malthouse,  
Manor Farm Lane,  
Chesterton,  
OX261UD

11-12-19

Dear Sir,

Re: Great Lakes UK Ltd Planning Application No.19/02550/F

I wish to register my objection to this application in the strongest possible terms. This does not fit in with the current development plan, nor would it benefit the community in which it would be placed.

The development on the golf course will reduce a sporting opportunity for a growing town. This greenfield site will be covered in buildings and tarmac car parking areas, that will reduce the ability to collect water in an area already subject to increased housing and business development. It is essential that nothing more is done to increase the risk of flooding and to maintain the water table at a manageable level.

Already the area has occasions when the road area cannot cope with traffic (incidents on the motorway and other main roads often lead to the A4095 being used as a short cut to avoid congestion). To place a large facility in this already heavily congested local road network is increasing the problem, to say nothing of reduced emergency vehicle access. The development of the distribution centre nearby will lead to more HGV traffic on an already congested country road. Surrounding villages will also suffer. Improving signs for traffic will have little effect, as the signs to stop larger vehicles using Little Chesterton have had little deterrent on the road use there.

The development so planned is out of keeping with the rural nature of the site. It is a development that will have significant impact on the local wildlife and flora. Placing a holiday resort next to a motorway is not a healthy decision, as air quality from the motorway will be poor.

The benefit to the local area will be minimal. The economy of the area will gain little. Visitors to the site will rarely visit the village facilities or even the town shops in Bicester. The plan gives the impression that all customers' needs can be met on site, so there is no local benefit. It was suggested at one of the exhibitions that local people could stay at the resort. But who goes on holiday to a resort that they can walk to?

The developers also suggest that they will provide jobs for local people. I must refute this suggestion, in that in September there were only 70 job seekers in the Cherwell area. Where will the other 630 come from, other than by bussing them in from elsewhere? This would exacerbate the already congested traffic problem. Jobs in the hospitality sector are not well paid, and would take away from existing businesses.

The manner in which the developers have approached the local community has been very unfortunate. They have behaved inappropriately in approaching local schools to involve children in their sales pitch. They have made too many assumptions about the area.

I cannot support a development that will have ecological impact, damage the visual aspect of the community, increase traffic, reduce sporting opportunities, damage the local economy. I will actively suggest that any local politician supporting this proposal should not receive my support in any future election.

Yours sincerely



T.M. SMITH