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From: [planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk) <[planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)>

Sent: Monday, October 7, 2019 10:48 AM

To: Planning <[Planning@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk](mailto:Planning@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk)>

Subject: New comments for application 19/01705/OUT

New comments have been received for application 19/01705/OUT at site address: Land Adjoining And West Of Bloxham Recreation Ground South Newington Road Bloxham

from Mr and Mrs Lilley

Address:

Sunnyside, High Street, Bloxham, Banbury, OX15 4LX

Comment type:

Objection

Comments:

We are writing to object to this planning application for 95 new homes on land adjoining and west of the recreation ground in Bloxham. We live in the centre of the village on the A361 and in the 13 years we have lived here the village has grown by 50%, with 5 new housing developments. That increase in population has put enormous pressure on the village infrastructure. The A361 is heavily congested, the schools are full (the primary school cannot be expanded) and there is now a much longer wait for non-emergency doctor's appointments. An additional concern is flood risk. We walk our dog regularly over the fields on which the proposed development will be built and there are always many patches of standing water after heavy rain. Building here would surely increase the flood risk to these and other houses in the near vicinity.

The Cherwell Local Plan specifies that a total of 750 homes will be delivered at Category A villages, of which Bloxham is one. Cherwell already has plans to cover those 750. It also has a full 5-year housing supply fulfilling its requirements to support government house-building. These 95 homes are not included in the planned 750 and therefore simply not needed.

Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan policy BL2 requires any further developments to be within the built up area of the village and on a small scale. This proposal satisfies neither criterion and therefore contravenes this policy.

Living on the A361, traffic, congestion and pollution are big concerns of ours. At all times of day, and especially during rush hour, traffic queues from the centre of the village, where people park to use the shops, to beyond the mini roundabout near the proposed new development. Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan policy BL9 states that traffic from any development should not adversely affect the existing road network. Clearly, 95 new homes built next to the A361 will generate at least another 95 vehicles through Bloxham which can only add to the current problems. The entrance to the development is also proposed to be directly onto the A361 at a site where there have been serious collisions in the past. The NPPF states that impact on the transport network or on highway safety must be capable of being cost effectively mitigated to an acceptable degree, but OCC has already stated that there are no feasible ways to increase capacity of the South Newington roundabout, so how will the impact be mitigated?

The resources we have in the village and our road network simply cannot support another large housing development. The proposed development contravenes a number of other aspects of the

Neighbourhood Plan concerning enclosure of green spaces, views from public rights of way, and harm to the character of the village, as well as ESD statements on the danger of adverse effects on biodiversity in local nature reserves and visual intrusion. This development simply makes no sense in the context of any planning framework. We urge any decision makers to visit Bloxham and see for themselves. The only sensible thing to do is to reject the application.

Chris and Sarah Lilley

Case Officer:  
Samantha Taylor

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