

From: Sally
Sent: 08 October 2019 17:48
To: Samantha Taylor
Subject: Objections to Planning Application 19/01705/OUT

Dear Ms Taylor

I have lived in Bloxham for 35 years and have seen many changes to the village and its services during that time. I accept that changes have to happen and people have to have places to live but it should not be to the detriment of the appearance and services of what is a very pretty rural village. I believe that if we allow further large-scale development in Bloxham, it will adversely affect the very nature of the village and the lives of those who currently live here. We are in danger of turning our villages into towns by overdevelopment of green spaces. I am therefore writing to put forward my objections to the above planning application in Bloxham adjacent to the recreation ground on the A361 coming out of Bloxham towards South Newington.

1. Bloxham has seen a large rise in new housing over the last few years mainly on open field sites. Further development on a large scale would contravene our Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan which states that apart from proposed development on the Milton Road further building should not occur outside of the built up limits of the village and should not include further large developments.. Further development of this kind would make a mockery of our Neighbourhood Development Plan (BL1/BL2)
2. Cherwell already has a 5 year housing plan covering the 750 homes that the Government has specified for category A villages such as Bloxham and at the moment there are plenty of houses for sale in the village of various prices. Therefore it appears that there is not a housing shortage in Bloxham at the moment or indeed a shortage in the surrounding Banbury area. (Cherwell Local Plan Part 1:Villages 2)
3. The A361 through Bloxham has always been a busy road but over the last few years with all the extra housing, it has become a real problem. OCC have stated that there is no way of increasing the South Newington roundabout which is at full capacity now. Another junction coming on to the A361, which is already a site of several accidents, with the potential for another 100+ cars will be dangerous and cause further traffic pollution in the village. Parking outside the shops in Bloxham has also become a problem. There is also the problem of air pollution with traffic jams including heavy lorries occurring frequently down the High Street. (Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan BL9,NPPF para 84).
4. Services in Bloxham are also stretched. The school has reached capacity with no possibility of expansion which means that children may not be able to attend their local school. Something that I feel very strongly about because my children were lucky enough to all attend Bloxham Primary and stay within their village community. The school also takes children from nearby villages such as Milcombe where new housing is also being built, adding more pressure to the school. (Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan BL9)
5. With emphasis now on the availability of green spaces and their impact on mental health, it is even more important to protect them. At the moment the Recreation ground is a well used green space surrounded by open fields with a footpath leading across the fields to Milcombe and the Slade Nature Reserve. If this development goes ahead, it will destroy that open country feel and change the recreation ground

into a built up park. The building works and the subsequent adjacent housing will certainly impact on the habitat of any wildlife in the Slade and drive it away. The Slade has been for many years and still is a marvellous resource for local children and adults. It has been designated a Cherwell District Wildlife Site and therefore should be protected. (Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan BL11, BL12, Cherwell Local Plan ESD10,ESD13, National Planning Policy Network para 174).

Yours sincerely

Sally Ryan

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