

Comment for planning application 19/02708/OUT

Application Number	19/02708/OUT
Location	Bicester Heritage Buckingham Road Bicester
Proposal	Outline:- Provide new employment units comprising B1 (Business), B2 (General Industrial), B8 (Storage) and D1 (Education) uses with ancillary offices, storage, display and sales, with all matters reserved except for access
Case Officer	Rebekah Morgan
Organisation	
Name	Kathleen Greco
Address	27 Woodcote Road,Caversfield,Bicester,OX27 8UB
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I object to this development on the grounds of 1) noise pollution 2) air pollution 3) reduction of access to airfield to gliders. Caversfield is a quiet village surrounded by open countryside and wildlife. The residents of the village have chosen to live here specifically because of the peace and quiet and fresh air. A high proportion of residents are dog-owners who live here because of the public footpaths over surrounding fields, where we can enjoy nature in peace. This makes a huge difference to our health and wellbeing and reduces the pressure on local health services. Many of us who are not involved with the Gliding Club nevertheless appreciate its eco-friendliness and the fact that we can enjoy watching gliders silently circle our skies as we walk our dogs. Caversfield village has been sensitively developed in recent years to include a 'Garden Quarter', with the emphasis on green space and peace. The houses and flats in the Garden Quarter were marketed specifically to appeal to those wanting a quiet life, a little bit removed from the noise and pollution of Bicester. Where development has been allowed on the other side of the village, it has been in the form of an Eco Town, with the emphasis being on minimal car use and environmental sustainability. These developments have been in tune with the concept of Bicester as a 'Garden Town'. Indeed, the Fringford Road going through the village and leading to the delightful countryside of the Shelswell Group of Parishes is the key unofficial Green Route for many Bicester residents who use it to exit the town for recreational purposes such as cycling and jogging. A recent application to build houses on the Fringford Road was quite rightly rejected on the grounds of it altering the rural nature of the village. Although I support the development of Bicester Heritage as it now stands, this application changes its nature from a hub of specialist workshops and occasional venue for classic rallies, into what will clearly become a race-track for highly polluting vehicles. The air quality and the noise from 'demonstration' tracks and '4X4 experiences' is not only completely unacceptable from the point of view of village residents, but also unacceptable in terms of the Climate Emergency. Although I share a fondness for classic vehicles and support their preservation and occasional use for rallies, they are hugely polluting and noisy and no longer acceptable as a means of transport. The only demonstrations and experiences that would be acceptable for this village would be in innovative electric cars, and introducing these instead would offer a great forward-looking aspect to this site which would allow it to reflect both past and future and would not increase noise or pollution levels. More importantly, it would fit in with the ethos of the existing Eco Town and the gliding club. The idea of creating a space for '4X4 experiences' just as the world teeters on the edge of environmental collapse is completely absurd and can only have been the idea of ageing males who are in climate change denial. It is the gliders, the Eco Town and the Garden Quarter along with the peaceful footpaths and cycling roads that define this area at present, and to allow this development to go ahead will completely overwhelm our village with noise and pollution, transforming its character. To allow it to go ahead would be a betrayal of the village residents, a retrograde step in terms of sustainability, it would fly in the face of this town being designated a Garden Town and, in a few years, it would be a dinosaur development, utterly out of tune with the environmental crisis, that would have deprived us of a wonderful environment for the gliders which are appreciated even by we earth-bound residents for their eco-friendliness, their silence and their beauty in our village skies. Please reject this application on grounds of noise and pollution to Caversfield Village and sustainability in general.</p>
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Attachments	