

Comment for planning application 20/01127/F

Application Number	20/01127/F
Location	Hatch End Old Poultry Farm Steeple Aston Road Middle Aston Bicester OX25 5QL
Proposal	Demolition of existing buildings. Erection of replacement business units, ancillary hub and associated external works.
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation Name	John Kinory
Address	Poachers Cottage,Paines Hill,Steeple Aston OX25 4SQ
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>Dear Planning Officer, I write to object most strongly to this planning application. It is completely inappropriate to this site, on several interconnected grounds. (1) SCALE: huge over-development for this quiet rural location, at the edge of a Conservation Area. (2) TRAFFIC: (a) during construction: this site is in close proximity to the village schools, and the movement of many hundreds of trucks right in front of them would pose a risk to children, especially in the morning and afternoon. Many of them walk to and from school, along a very narrow road with narrow pavements (often on one side only, or hardly any at all in parts). There is also very heavy traffic in the morning and afternoon of parents taking children to and from school by car, and Fir Lane can barely cope with this traffic even now, with constant logjams extending all the way to the very awkward junction with North Side, Cow Lane and Paines Hill. Both North Side and Paines Hill are very narrow and twisting and steep in sections, and vehicles often get stuck during peak hours when trying to turn this corner. The refurbishment of one small cottage (!) near this corner on Fir Lane, a few months ago, was enough to cause constant snarl-ups with traffic coming to complete stand-still. Vehicles have to reverse and allow each other to pass in what are effectively one-car-width sections along the whole of all these streets, even outside peak hours. The situation is similar at the junction at the other end of Paines Hill, where often the scheduled buses get held up near the corner with South Side due to a logjam. In this situation, ambulances would also get stuck in the logjam. Paines Hill, like most of the village roads, is in dire condition. Would the bridge withstand many hundreds of truck movements? The road in that area keeps breaking up all the time. The heavy traffic would also endanger the foundations of the many small and old cottages lining Paines Hill throughout its length and parts of Fir Lane and North Side (but worst on Paines Hill, because the trucks would be thundering down the 2 hills - from the Post Office and from the church). Who would be liable for damage to the foundations of those cottages? (b) After completion: it is quite ludicrous to suggest that employees and customers of companies operating on the site would arrive at the site on foot (and depart on foot), as the distance and the steep hills from the nearest bus stop and railway station make this completely impracticable, and the timetables are such that public transport arrives very infrequently and inconveniently. Of course the vast majority of movements would be by private car. Given the number of proposed units at the site, and the already dire traffic situation in Steeple Aston as described above, this would place an intolerable burden on the roads and also pose a permanent risk to the school children. I urge the planning department to reject this poorly thought-out and inappropriate scheme, which ignores completely the reality of life in a village such as this. It may be right for a city, but not remotely right for a village. Thank you, John Kinory</p>
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Attachments	