

# Comment for planning application 20/01127/F

<b>Application Number</b>	20/01127/F
<b>Location</b>	Hatch End Old Poultry Farm Steeple Aston Road Middle Aston Bicester OX25 5QL
<b>Proposal</b>	Demolition of existing buildings. Erection of replacement business units, ancillary hub and associated external works.
<b>Case Officer</b>	James Kirkham
<b>Organisation Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	Bridget Lewis
<b>Type of Comment</b>	2 The Old Forge Studio,Paines Hill,Steeple Aston,Bicester,OX25 4SQ
<b>Type</b>	Objection
<b>Comments</b>	neighbour
<b>Comments</b>	<p>My main objection to the proposed development relates to access to the site and the related traffic issues. Although any employee living in either Steeple Aston or Middle Aston could walk to the site, there are no pavements to either village and street lighting is minimal. In winter especially, this is an obvious hazard. Employees from other villages in the locality are unlikely to walk to the site and cycling would involve either steep hills or busy main roads, neither of which make it likely many would want to commute this way. The public transport provision to the site is limited. Steeple Aston is served by the buses going between Oxford and Banbury but the buses are not frequent and to get to the nearest bus stop requires going up and down a steep hill. This hill is also on the route to the nearest train station in Lower Heyford. In reality, the vast majority of the employees on the site will arrive by car, so the proposed balance of car parking spaces to bicycle racks has been misjudged and far more on-site car parking would be required. These extra cars would also entail a large increase in the proposed amount of traffic to and from the site. Most of this would be concentrated at the start and end of the working day, just the time when the road between Steeple Aston and the site is at its busiest with children arriving at the school and preschool at the start of the day and activities taking place at the Village Hall, Sports Hall and Recreation Ground at the latter part of the day. At these times the road is already chaotic, with school buses and cars parked along the road, making access very difficult. Adding more traffic into this mix is a definite cause for concern. In general, the proposed use of the site seems out of scale to the locality. Villages operate on a small-scale, with individual businesses dotted around the village and each employing only a handful of people. Approximately 150 employees on a single site does not fit with in with a village setting. Although some development of the site might be welcomed, especially if it was likely to provide some local employment, this is not it.</p>
<b>Received Date</b>	17/06/2020 19:55:40
<b>Attachments</b>	