Rachel Tibbetts

From: Bernadette Owens
Sent: 02 November 2020 13:43

To: DC Support

Subject: Planning application for Gavray Drive - 20/02469/SCOP

----Original Message-----

From: jennifer

Sent: 30 October 2020 11:18

To: Bernadette Owens <Bernadette.Owens@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk> Subject: Planning application for Gavray Drive - 20/02469/SCOP

Dear Ms Owens,

Planning application for Gavray Drive - 20/02469/SCOP

I am writing about the proposed planning development of 202 houses for the site adjacent to Gavray Drive in Bicester.

I live in Langford Village and regularly walk along Gavray Drive and across the fields towards Launton.

Whilst I appreciate the ongoing need for more residential development, I have two concerns about this development.

The first concerns the density of the houses and the impact this will have on the floodplain. I live on Langford Village, immediately downstream of the Gavray development. Flooding is already a regular occurrence along the Langford Brook and I am concerned that these incidents will increase in both frequency and severity. I know that the Brook is part of a flood management scheme but it seems that the floods are more serious now: Jubilee Lake floods on a regular basis and Langford Brook overflows more often, blocking pathways and the walk/cycle paths into town, as well the football pitch and meadow area.

This has a huge impact on the amenity value of the Langford Estate, let alone the wildlife in the hedgerows, and I would not like to see this worsen.

I am also concerned about the loss of the green space in Gavray Meadows.

Langford is a lovely park, but it is a managed space and the wildness of the Gavray meadow makes for a very different experience. We do not have the benefit of a large Nature Reserve in this area of Bicester, and it would be inspirational to see this area left to grow wild and carry on as a habitat for increasingly marginalised wildlife.

I would be in favour of limiting the residential development to the north of the site and allowing the rest of it to be parkland/wildlife/nature reserve. This would be a hugely valuable asset for the local people. That area, including the railway line, is only going to get busier and we desperately need to preserve some green spaces.

Many thanks for reading this,

Jennifer Bartlett

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