Oak Cottage, Hopcraft Lane, Deddington, 26 January, 2021

Cherwell District Council, Development Management, Bodicote House.

Dear Sirs.

Deddington - Planning Application 20/03467/F.

I was concerned when I learnt of proposals to develop the field adjoining Deddington Castle. This area of Deddington is a unique and has a long history.

Previous applications for this field have met with refusal and I trust this application results in the same decision. Deddington castle is an important national site and stands prominently in this corner of the village. The field subject to this application adjoins the moat. This application will obscure the views to and from the castle's features and, consequently, should not receive permission. The Poplars field marks the eastern boundary of the village's Conservation Area, as does the castle. Additionally the village Conservation Area appraisal emphasised the importance of green spaces within it.

One factor, underplayed by the applicant, is that fact the site also neighbours on to Castle Barns, which are Grade 2* listed. The proposal simply blocks it off from surroundings it has enjoyed for centuries.

The site is at the edge of the village and has difficult access into the village and its facilities. Living nearby I am well aware of what problems both pedestrians and drivers can experience. A fast road – despite the speed limit – awkward junction, nearby bend and lack of or substandard pavements. These problems will make it difficult and safe walk for the intended residents.

I object to this application and urge its refusal.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. Todd (Mrs)