

Comment for planning application 21/00922/OUT

Application Number	21/00922/OUT
Location	Land West Of Foxden Way Great Bourton OX17 1QY
Proposal	OUTLINE Planning Application with all matters reserved save for access for up to 9 First Homes
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation Name	Liz Carter
Address	41 Garners Field,Great Bourton,Banbury,OX17 1FH
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I am objecting to this application again as I still do not believe that it represents sustainable development despite the information in the supporting documents suggesting otherwise and the changes to the first plan. It will have a negative impact on the local environment. Using a car is all but essential for anyone living here - even to get to the doctors and the local shop in Cropredy - supposedly within a reasonable walking distance but at the bottom of a long hill that anyone in poor health, sick or in a hurry is not going to undertake. People would not generally choose to do a weekly shop down there either. Residents would depend on cars to get to Banbury to go to the station, work, shops, and for entertainment and for outings further afield. Public transport is too limited to be useful. Also, residents will have visitors and deliveries - traffic in Foxden Way and the narrow roads either end, will undoubtedly increase. At present they serve as a quiet and level route for walkers, cyclists, even wheelchair users, between Great and Little Bourton. More cars will make them hazardous and deter people from getting out, with consequent impacts on their physical and mental health. I assume that access to the development from Foxden Way is part of the plan because the builder's options are limited by the land he owns, not because it is a sensible idea. More traffic on these small narrow roads will be a nightmare for everyone. There will be more than just six extra car journeys at the beginning and end of the working day as suggested in the transport paper, and the suggestion therein that people could cycle down Mill Lane and along the canal towpath into Banbury is laughable. This would involve crossing a railway line on foot and Mill Lane is an uneven, rutted farm track down the side of the valley. Only the most experienced cyclists with robust bikes would consider it. It indicates a lack of local knowledge by the contractors and raises questions about the other points they make. Cycling to Banbury is possible by first taking Foxden way south to Little Bourton and joining dual use footpaths alongside the main road beyond there but this is only safely feasible while there is light traffic along Foxden way. Ironically this supposedly sustainable development could make the whole village of Great Bourton less sustainable. So, much of my objection to the development is based on the certain increase in traffic on the small local roads, but with the costs of car use rising, it seems bizarre to be building First Homes in a place where car ownership is so necessary. Such a development would more suitable closer to Banbury where more facilities could be accessed readily, on foot and by public transport. Also, the proposed development is bound to have a negative impact on the local wildlife. There was a dead badger on Foxden way a few weeks ago. Increasing traffic would result in more roadkill, probably including hedgehogs which have been doing relatively well here. The various birds of prey flying over the development site indicate that it is not devoid of wildlife. It will not add to local biodiversity though, a requirement of the new Environment Act.</p>
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Attachments	