

Comment for planning application 21/01123/F

Application Number	21/01123/F
Location	Hatch End Old Poultry Farm Steeple Aston Road Middle Aston Bicester OX25 5QL
Proposal	Demolition of existing buildings. Construction of replacement business units (buildings 2,3, 4,5 and 6 as use classes E(g) (i), E(g) ii and E (g) iii and Building 1 under Class B8) and associated external works. (Re-submission of 20/01127/F)
Case Officer	James Kirkham
Organisation	
Name	Peter and Jenny Bell
Address	Manor Court Cottage,North Side,Steeple Aston,Bicester,OX25 4SE
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>We are writing for a third time to object to this proposed development. Our grounds are the same: the volume of traffic which will be generated by the development is not only unacceptable but downright dangerous. It should be emphasised that this is not a standard brownfield site development. This site is directly adjacent to a busy primary school, on a narrow rural lane with no footway where already the congestion at school drop off and pick up times causes concern. With parents and children on foot, cars parked in every available space and school buses competing for space with normal traffic and often large agricultural vehicles, the situation is to say the least worrying. This latest Addendum on the transport implications of the development does nothing to assuage our fears. In fact, it seems to show the situation as even worse than we had feared. Table 2.1 shows that up to 85 employees could work at the site under the current plans. Of these the vast majority (over 80%) will travel to work by car. As this site has been virtually unoccupied ever since we arrived in the village 25 years ago, this seems to be an increase of around 140 journeys every weekday. This is before taking into account additional journeys by visitors, customers, delivery vehicles etc. Given that part of the site is to be used for storage and distribution this traffic may well include vans, lorries and trucks. The impact of this additional traffic on the narrow approach roads to the site, especially Paines Hill, (where there are already problems because of parked cars on both sides of the road) will be substantial. But our overwhelming concern, along with many of our fellow villagers, is for the safety of our children attending the school and pre-school. Steeple Aston Parish Council asked back in October that councillors come and visit the area at school set-down and pick up times before they make a decision on this application. Our local councillor Mike Kerford-Byrnes supported that request. But we understand that only Councillor Kerford-Byrnes took the trouble to see for himself. This experience led to his vigorous opposition to the application when it was last considered by the committee. We would ask again that councillors along with officials from the planning and highways departments make the effort to see the situation for themselves. When the lives of children are at stake, surely those who are making decisions on our behalf should feel a moral imperative to inform themselves of the circumstances.</p>
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Attachments	