

Comment for planning application 22/01715/OUT

Application Number

Location

Proposal

Case Officer

Organisation Name

Address

Type of Comment

Type

Comments

This site forms part of no Local Plan. The inspector appointed to reviews sites in respect of Oxford's unmet housing need rejected it strongly.

Significant impacts of the scheme would fall upon Woodstock, which, of course, is not in Cherwell DC. Cherwell DC does not have the knowledge of Woodstock necessary to understand those impacts. It cannot rely upon the assessments of those impacts undertaken by the developer; it would not do so for any scheme impacting a significant settlement in its own District. In particular, it has no way of judging the cumulative impacts of the Local Plan allocations in Woodstock in addition to this unallocated site.

The Blenheim Estate "consultation" on this site was partial and biased. That it was irrelevant in it's decision making process about what sort of application to make is shown by the fact that comments were invited up to 22 May 2022, but an Outline application with a detailed EIA was made on 9 June 2022.

In combination with the 3 large WODC LP allocations this development would overwhelm the infrastructure and services of Woodstock, one of the most important historic settlements in the County and probably the Country. In combination with other allocations in nearby settlements it would make traffic on the main routes, particularly the A44 and A4095, materially worse. The Bladon Roundabout will end up with the scale of traffic problem seen in North Oxford at Wolvercote. The CC will then have little option but to control traffic flow with lights. This would be entirely inappropriate in what remains a semi rural area, immediately adjacent to a World Heritage Site. It is surprising Blenheim does not seem to care about this. Even though the WHS falls outside Cherwell, the Cherwell DC officers and members have an obligation to assist in its protection.

If Blenheim wishes to to develop a site of this scale with this level of impact, Cherwell DC should require it to go through a proper LP process. Not to do this would be to deny the people of Woodstock and our representatives the chance to ensure it's impacts are fully understood.

Received Date

Attachments