

Comment for planning application 23/00853/OUT

Application Number	23/00853/OUT
Location	Land East Of Warwick Road Drayton Warwick Road Banbury
Proposal	Outline application for up to 170 dwellings (Use Class C3) with associated open space and vehicular access off Warwick Road, Banbury; All matters reserved except for access
Case Officer	Linda Griffiths
Organisation Name	Carl Portman
Address	Orchard House, Main Street, Hanwell, Banbury, OX17 1HN
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I am a resident of Hanwell Village. For the very same reasons that the good people of Deddington objected to additional housing around their village (see Banbury Guardian), I do also. This includes loss of green space and open countryside, of which only 8% of England is available for people to roam. Additionally, the massive strain on local amenities such as water and internet supply, doctors, schools and sewage works. We are already seeing a reduction in the standard of service to this village because of these new estates, already only a couple of fields away. Then there is the additional traffic. 170 homes means at least two cars per home - another up to 400 thundering through our ancient village. Think about those carbon emissions. Also, in Hanwell (which is itself a Conservation area - see your own plans) there is the impact on the night sky and the light pollution. We have an official observatory in Hanwell.</p> <p>How will that be affected? More light is going to be deleterious. Hanwell residents moved into the village because of its rural nature. We paid significantly more for our properties (and still do through council tax!) for that reason and now this creeping death is eating into the rural nature of our way of life. If people want a city - go to a city. Vistry have the sheer cheek to say that it would be a boost for the community/ What community? WE ARE the local community and it is the very opposite of a boost.</p> <p>The land should be left green. There are other things to do with it such as plant wildflower meadows for which landowners can receive grant support. We only have less than 3% of such wildflower places in the whole of England. Stop, and imagine that for one moment.</p> <p>This is about money, as usual. Speculative builders making a fast buck on poor quality housing, only to disappear forever leaving a concrete mess behind. The future of England is in your hands. You can tick boxes like sheep, saying that we must have more housing for more people. Yet take a look at (for example) Right Move and other estate agents. There are plenty of houses for sale, ranging from 60,000 upwards, covering the spectrum of affordable housing and more. I do not believe for one moment that we should have more housing AT ANY COST. This is morally wrong. Why can more housing not be built (or renovations made) on brown field sites? That is a rhetorical question, again it is all about money really, and it is this that is hidden behind the mask of supposedly doing the right thing by making housing available for people.</p> <p>We don't need more houses, we need fewer people!</p> <p>We have a duty to protect the amazing English countryside, to preserve it for generations to come. We must live in harmony with wildlife and nature. We need those fields for children to learn about their local environment, and the creatures that live here. What good is the extinction of the Condor if the child had never seen a wren? Nature cannot speak for itself so I am a spokesperson for the land, the hedges, the trees, butterflies, birds, mammals, arachnids and insects that dwell there, not to mention the human animal who enjoys it so much.</p> <p>You do not have to say yes. In my view, if you authorise this you are not adding anything to the local community here, you are doing the opposite, you are detracting from it. It's on your conscience, but if this goes ahead that what we have is lost forever and that would be unforgivable.</p> <p>I am attaching a photograph of the land around Hanwell. Our ancestors have trodden here,</p>

and future generations must. It is not yours to sacrifice. Please don't. We have had enough. We have put up with housing drawing ever nearer to this village on the basis that we would have no more. We held good on our word, when we were told there would be no more. That was just a lie.

My final word is this: Come and walk the area with me. Come and see what I see. Not concrete, but prime countryside. Your job is not just to look after today, but tomorrow and the future. You have an obligation not only to people but to the countryside also.

Do the right thing. Say no.

Carl Portman
Orchard House, Hanwell Village

Received Date

09/04/2023 13:18:57

Attachments

The following files have been uploaded:

- Carl Portmans Oxfordshire.pdf