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

Richard Greig

Organisation

Name

Hanwell Village Hall Team Committee C/o Diana Sadler

Address

Hanwell Village Hall, Main Street, Hanwell, Oxfordshire, OX17 1HL,

Type of Comment

Objection

Type

neighbour

Comments

Hanwell Village Hall's Team Committee fully objects this planning application on the following grounds:

Granting planning permission to this developer to build on the high grade agricultural farm land will join Hanwell to Banbury. Gullicote Lane, which is opposite the Village Hall runs to/from this proposed development site, therefore it is in the village. Not only is it in the village it also is extremely close to the Conservation Area.

The Village Hall is a community asset for the residents of Hanwell, adding 170 houses in the village would present great pressures to this asset in community provision and to the use of the Hall. Therefore suitable community provision for residents living in the proposed development has not been considered.

Residents in the village have expressed their concerns that if this planning application was to go ahead, that Hanwell would lose its village setting and identity. The fields and the established green buffer are required to remain if Hanwell has a future as a small rural village. The green buffer was detailed in Cherwell District Council's own report in 2012 to prevent coalescence between the village of Hanwell and the northern edge of Banbury.

The land is prime grade 2 and 3a farm land and the farmer wishes to continue to farm here. The loss of this land could result in the farmer no longer farming around Hanwell as there will be less agricultural land to farm on. Therefore this would change the character of the village in its rural landscape setting.

The team identifies the need to build more affordable homes but building on grade 2 and 3a agricultural land is not the answer, especially when we are entering a period of concern for our food security, which is just as important an issue as housing. Trying to solve one problem by allowing to create another is not the answer.

As this planning application would bring Hanwell into Banbury we feel it's relevant to highlight the brownfield sites within Banbury Town Centre that have laid dormant for many years. Sites around the railway station for example and even Castle Quay where large retail space is left empty and could be regenerated into affordable homes for families with required infrastructure already in place.

Cherwell District Council announced that it had met its housing supply across the district (including in/around Banbury) in February this year. This proposed site is not in the Cherwell Local Plan nor has it been identified as an option in the draft Local Plan. Therefore this planning application should be rejected by the Council.

Received Date

27/04/2023 15:04:06

Attachments