

# Comment for planning application 23/00853/OUT

<b>Application Number</b>	23/00853/OUT
<b>Location</b>	Land East Of Warwick Road Drayton Warwick Road Banbury
<b>Proposal</b>	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
<b>Case Officer</b>	Richard Greig
<b>Organisation Name</b>	
<b>Name</b>	D V ADAMS
<b>Address</b>	Haven House,Main Street,Hanwell,Banbury,OX17 1HN
<b>Type of Comment</b>	Objection
<b>Type</b>	neighbour
<b>Comments</b>	<p>Dear Madam/Sir</p> <p>I write in connection with the above planning application from Vistry. I have examined the plans and I know the site well as I live in the village of Hanwell which will border the Vistry land with a gap of just 12 metres, corner to corner.</p> <p>I wish to strongly object to the development of this 170 house estate and its attendant roads and lighting in this location. Aside from Hanwell being in a registered 'conservation area', I'm extremely concerned about the coalescence of Banbury and Hanwell, which will be the inevitable result of such a scheme.</p> <p>The proposed siting of the development is particularly ill-considered. The proposed plots are listed as prime Grade 2 and 3a agricultural land and, given the current war in Ukraine (a major crop producer along with Russia) and the prospect of future droughts in the Mediterranean region brought about by climate change, this country MUST be more self sufficient in this regard. Also, we can ill afford to continue importing foods when we can so easily increase our current 60% quota of food we produce for home consumption. Without large pockets of land like this, our farming industry will suffer further. We need our farmland more than ever! Besides, our maritime climate is perfectly suited to farming.</p> <p>The area around Hanwell is used by many people in the area for recreation and dog walking. Building 170 new houses here would both diminish the striking view from the boundary hedge in Hanwell and be prominent from most angles within the area of the fields south of Hanwell and north of Hanwell Fields. Also, the northernmost edge of the planned development is nowhere near screened enough to hide the estate from the houses in the upper part of Hanwell. And even if Vistry planted extra buffer trees it would take years for them to grow into a sufficient buffer. Also, the land in question is bordered on three sides by countryside, making any housing estate on it stick out like a sore thumb. It will be hugely incongruous.</p> <p>This development will also add more traffic on Warwick Road and cause even more traffic through Hanwell village as cars cut across from Warwick Road to Southam Road.</p> <p>I feel a great sadness for the people who bought their homes in Hanwell Chase believing that the council would keep its promise it made years ago to stop building more homes north of the buffer at Hanwell Chase.</p> <p>There is no need for this kind of open market housing in the area. I even question the notion of a 'housing crisis' given the amount of properties permanently for sale on Rightmove at prices starting at reasonable 60.</p> <p>The town of Banbury simply does not have the infrastructure to support these extra houses. GP surgeries are near full to capacity, there isn't an NHS dentist for 20 miles, veterinary applications are all closed due to over subscriptions, schools are already hard to come by and Horton Hospital is ill equipped to deal hundreds more patients. The traffic, too, is noticeably worse since more housing was introduced and Hennef Way already has some of the highest emissions in the country.</p> <p>I care deeply about wildlife and the impact of all these homes. How many thousands of</p>

species - deer, birds, insects, bats, rodents, foxes, badgers, hedgehogs - have already been displaced to date by roughshod housing by predatory developers? Here we are in a grave state trying to rescue a dying planet and yet we continue to destroy the habitats of the very creatures that are actually keeping us alive. Every last one of them has a role to serve and they all deserve respect. I have seen many bats in that area when walking at dusk and dawn is alive with deer. Red Tailed Kites now glide majestically across the sky. It would be a crime against nature to see this destroyed.

As for the plight of our bees. These two fields grow rape which flowers en masse. Without this pollen source, our bees will suffer as will all pollinating birds.

Do we really want to be compared to the appalling policies of Brazil where they clear rain forests for palm oil? That's what it looks like all around Banbury. Field after field bulldozered to create a another concrete jungle of, it must be said, mostly hideous looking houses that actually look cheaply built from the outside. Really, whoever let these developers build houses so out of character they may as well be on the moon, should hang his/her head in shame. The current new builds in no way compliment the natural areas they've punched holes in. They are an odious eyesore as you drive northwards out of Banbury - hideous rows of cheaply-built red Lego-brick disasters with sweaty white bricks that have mostly not been constructed to the high standards the buyers expected.

Hanwell is a historic village with a long history. St Peter Church is a 13th Century Grade 1-listed beauty, Hanwell Castle is Grade II+. In other words, it's an old village. Very old.

Hanwell has an observatory that is occasionally open to the public. It is south facing but already the light in Banbury has affected viewings and research. Further light pollution is not welcome.

I implore the planning department to object to this planning application. It's just another land grab and, to make matters worse, this land is not even in the Cherwell Local Plan.

This land is not ours or yours to ruin! Please think of the future generations who will want to enjoy this lovely countryside as we have.

Instead, please concentrate on revitalising the town of Banbury by using brownfield sites, shop conversions and low-rise house flats to meet the so-called demands on housing. We want a vibrant centre with cafes, artisan shops and other social meeting places. A market town that people will want to visit and be proud to live in.

Build Banbury, not the countryside!

Kind Regards

Derek Adams

**Received Date**

29/04/2023 22:11:03

**Attachments**

The following files have been uploaded:

- VISTRY AERIAL.pdf