

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	Barry Moss
Address	Park Cottage,Hornton Lane,Horley,Banbury,OX15 6BJ
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour

Comments

The Chief Planning Officer,
Planning Department,
Cherwell District Council,
Bodicote House,
Bodicote,
OX15 4AA

27th April 2023.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Reference Planning Application 23/00853/OUT

With reference to the above planning application by Vestry Homes, I would like to raise several objections to the proposed development.

This part of rural Oxfordshire has been a hub of agriculture for centuries. The villages surrounding Banbury and particularly those to the north have been instrumental in managing the countryside for the benefit of all communities in the area. So, the proposed development of the land between Hanwell and Banbury will take away some prime agricultural land that is ripe for use in these trying times. Families in the surrounding area will be deprived of land that can be used to provide food for hard-pressed family budgets. If the landowner wishes to sell the land to line their pockets, I suggest the land be passed to someone who has the time to develop its potential.

I recall that a while ago a village plan was devised by each village to try and forecast the development of the area and in every case, the villages concerned wished to keep their identity but were still content to allow small developments. With the various planning issues in north Oxfordshire, it must be assumed that there is an undercurrent of housing development around Banbury where the villages will get absorbed. There appears to be a concerted plan to drive this plan forward. This is despite the objections of each of the villages around Banbury. Surely it is obvious to all that the eventual result will be a small collection of monstrous towns or cities which are separated only by small tracts of land. I certainly would not wish to live in a society that did away with the character villages. I am sure I am not alone. I was under the impression that given the substantial developments that have already taken place and those for which planning has been approved that we have reached our target imposed by the central government. So, what are we still destroying our agricultural land for?

One only has to walk around some of the villages to see the immense character that has developed over centuries. The ad hoc buildings that were constructed to serve the local communities were put there because there was a direct need in the area. This was before the local planning and conservation departments started meddling. New buildings in earlier years would have been built according to need. That need was for the betterment of the area not to allow a huge influx of people which will saturate the area. Trying to tell villagers who simply wanted to improve the area in a sympathetic way have been forced to deal with council departments who seem to go home on Friday and not appreciate life in a rural community. It is those council employees who will be judging the validity of the planning applications. I must say that the future in such circumstances is not bright at all.

The diversity of the countryside particularly regarding the wildlife will be hard hit by the continual concreting over of its habitat. It is not unusual to see people wandering through country lanes marveling at the wildlife that has abandoned city life more than once. How

many times has one heard gasps of amazement on seeing a deer, badger, birds of prey, and such like? There must come a point where we have to say enough is enough. The wildlife cannot write a letter to their town councilor or stand up and be counted. Who voices an objection on their behalf?

What I see as the overdevelopment of the area around Banbury and in particular that between Hanwell and Banbury has in no way allowed for the amenities that any new house owner would expect. The schools are at breaking point! The new development will inevitably bring new families some with children others hoping for children. What plans have been drawn up to provide new schools of primary, secondary, and senior education? Putting the cart before the horse springs to mind. Other areas of concern include shops, transport, doctors, hospitals, and the suitability of the road structure. I could go on!

If I wrote to you quoting all aspects of the application which I feel are faulty I would have gone on to many more pages. No doubt others will be writing to you. I have, however, concentrated on certain points.

In writing to you I must emphasize that I do so in the hopes that sanity will prevail. The march of continual development of the countryside seems relentless. Someone must stand up and voice an objection. To the planning department and the planning committee who must decide on the applications, I would ask that they reject the application by Vestry Homes. Applications for the development of rural areas of many types seem to bombard us on a regular basis. As I said earlier in my letter enough is enough, we need to stand up for the little guy.

Yours sincerely,
Barry W. Moss.

Received Date

15/05/2023 18:22:06

Attachments