

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	Rachel Gascoigne
Address	2 Hazlewood Cottages, Main Street, Hanwell, Banbury, OX17 1HN
Type of Comment	Comment
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I have lived in Hanwell for 32 years and would like to object to this application for a number of reasons:</p> <p>(i) This proposed site would join the village of Hanwell to Banbury, ignoring the well established green buffer that was created to protect the countryside. Hanwell's independence and identity as a village would be lost and this beautiful conservation area would be compromised with the proposed development easily within sight of the conservation area.</p> <p>(ii) The land this proposed development is on is not identified in either the current Local Plan or the draft Local Plan. I therefore take this to mean that Cherwell District Council is seeking to protect this land and the identity of Hanwell as an independent village. This makes this application speculative at best. Particularly when one considers that Cherwell District Council has met (and exceeded) its land supply targets (5.4 years).</p> <p>(iii) The land that this proposed site would be built on is good quality (BMV) farmland and in these times of food shortages and a crisis in the supply of basic crops it is a travesty to be even considering the loss of farmland for housing. That land does yield hundreds of tonnes of crops necessary to our food chain.</p> <p>(iv) This site has archaeological remains potentially dating back to the Roman age (or earlier). The developer has offered less than due diligence to this fact. To consider developing this site and losing this important and tangible link to history would be tragic.</p> <p>(v) Local services are beyond full capacity, with GPs, dentists and Schools unable to offer places to the current local population, without adding another (minimum of) 170 houses. We must stop building and reflect on our current position; we need communities that support themselves, not isolated communities where residents cannot access basic amenities.</p> <p>(vi) The plans submitted with this application identify a potential increase in biodiversity. I am completely at a loss to understand how this has been calculated. These are agricultural fields, in the countryside - THEY ARE BIODIVERSE! I would urge you to walk around the area and hear the birdsong, the deer and other animals and see the wildflowers that are already there. We do not need to re-create these in a pastiche of the countryside, they already exist and are the real thing.</p> <p>(vii) The 'consultation' referred to by Vistry in their application is, I feel, insulting. As a resident of Hanwell I have responded to both Vistry's online survey and the Keep Hanwell Village Rural consultations. I am not aware of any positive responses. Indeed I have been made aware of a feeling in the local community of Hanwell (and the surrounding villages) of deep concern regarding the speculative nature of this application, the lack of detail submitted in the proposed plans and the lack of concern for the value and protection of a historic village.</p> <p>I therefore urge that this application be refused and I would argue further that all the land around the village of Hanwell should receive protection from future speculative planning applications, thus protecting this conservation village.</p> <p>I love my village and hate to think it will be swallowed up and genome part of the town - ruining forever its history and identity forever.</p>
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Attachments	