

Woodway Barn  
Woodway Rd  
Sibford Ferris  
OX15 5DA

Development Management  
Cherwell District Council  
Bodicote House  
Bodicote  
OX15 4AA

CDC  
31 MAY 2023  
POST ROOM

Dear Sir/Madam

I should like to protest strongly about planning application 23/01316/F for 5 dwellings on the land south of Faraday House, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. The planning application 18/01894/OUT for 25 houses on the Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris, in 2018, was turned down by the Council, but passed on appeal in 2019.

As anticipated, this permission to build on a green field site has proved to be the "thin end of the wedge", encouraging further planning applications for developments beyond the built up limit of Sibford Ferris into open countryside and good agricultural land. Yet more housing development would be extremely detrimental to the appearance and

character of the village.

In the Cherwell 2021 local plan, t1 the site south of Faraday House is scheduled for development. When a planning application for this site was refused

March 2023, the Inspector rightly criticised the proposed development as "visually incongruous". Despite the design changes now put forward by the developers, this proposal would still spoil the beauty of the surrounding countryside and fail to blend to the rural character of the Sibfords. It has been resubmitted a mere 2 months after being turned down by the Council. If the developers be successful, all aspects of village life will be impacted. The infrastructure would not sustain the extra strain created by the demands of an increased population.

Even before the work on the first site (PP/C3105/W/19/3229631) has begun, traffic through Sibford Ferris is a problem. Roads through the village offer little in the way of amenities for pedestrians. The main street is mostly single track, due to cars parking on the road where there is no off-road parking available. Dust carts,

delivery lorries and large agricultural vehicles add to the traffic jams on a regular basis. New developments, where the only access is via the Hook Norton Road - almost directly opposite the entrance to Sibford's independent school - will intensify the amount of traffic, especially in the morning and late afternoon.

Woodway Road - a single track lane, with blind bends - could easily develop into a dangerous rat run as drivers attempt to avoid the inevitable traffic congestion on the other roads to and from the Sibfords. This little lane, with beautiful views across the valley, is much used by walkers, horse and bicycle riders, and families with young children (often in pushchairs). It could become a very dangerous exit and entry to Sibford Ferris.

I would ask the council most sincerely to reject this latest, unacceptable application.

Yours faithfully

