

Comment for planning application 25/01346/OUT

Application Number	25/01346/OUT
Location	Part OS Parcel 0006 North Of The Moors Kidlington
Proposal	Outline planning application with All Matters Reserved (except means of access) for up to 340 dwellings (Use Class C3), land for local community use and pavilion, landscaping, public open space and associated infrastructure, including demolition of 162 The Moors to enable all modes access
Case Officer	Carlos Chikwamba
Organisation Name	
Name	Peter Trowles
Address	38 School Road,Kidlington,OX5 2HB
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>As a nearby resident who makes regular use of the footpaths across this site I object to this proposal for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. This land is in the Oxford green belt. I can see no exceptional circumstances that would justify removing it from the green belt to permit development. In fact, our democratically elected Parish Council have proposed that this land should be designated a Local Green Space and this view should be given considerable weight by the district planners. The Government states that "the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence". This land has always been open countryside and never previously developed. It cannot be described as "Grey Belt".2. This land is not allocated for development in the Local Plan nor in the proposed draft Local Plan. The applicant points out that Cherwell does not have a 5 year supply of housing identified, but if that is true today, it may not be true in the near future. This should not be an excuse for building on the green belt while the full 5 year housing supply is being identified. Some commenters point out that there is a "desperate need" for more housing around Oxford. They seem to forget that there is already space allocated for 4,400 new dwellings in the area around Kidlington that will be available for local people. It is time for the Cherwell Planning Committee to make a stand on behalf of local people and say enough is enough here.3. The proposed site borders the Lower Cherwell Valley Conservation Target Area and is close to St Mary's Fields Nature Reserve at the eastern end. It is clear that bringing the urban environment to the borders of these important habitats would be damaging to nature from the removal of natural food supplies and habitats, light pollution, increased footfall and dog fouling. The proposed sports pitches at the eastern end, although green coloured grass, are sterile environments from an environmental perspective and remove essential hunting grounds for owls which nest in St Mary's Fields. The pond near to the junction of Benmead Road and The Moors would also be lost under tarmac. The ecology reports provided by the applicant are inadequate as pointed out by the Council's own ecology officers, this pond having been ignored.4. The health and mental wellbeing of Kidlington residents will be adversely affected by this proposed development as this land is the last area of unspoilt and quiet open countryside bordering Kidlington. It is extensively used for recreation along the two public footpaths and other informal paths and is greatly valued by locals.5. This unplanned proposal will only add to the pressure on overstretched infrastructure and transport network resulting from the 4,400 houses already planned for. There are no major increases in capacity in existing plans so this speculative development will add to congestion without offering a solution. All access points proposed are on to minor residential roads which will therefore have increased traffic flow and become less safe, particularly for cyclists whose numbers the council is supposed to be increasing.6. There must be serious doubts about Thames Water's sewage processing capacity being able to cope with this unplanned development.7. The site floods regularly, especially at the eastern end. Where will this flood water and additional runoff go? Rainfall is increasing due to climate change. Flooding of existing properties and an increase in the height and duration of flooding of St Mary's Fields Nature Reserve, a District Wildlife Site, is likely. This could effectively spell the end of this wildlife site for nature conservation.
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Attachments