

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	Gail Leckie
Address	60 Benmead Road,Kidlington,OX5 2DB
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>I write to object to the proposal for cricket pitches, a roundabout and housing on this land.</p> <p>I am worried about loss of wild green space, flooding and traffic.</p> <p>1) My main concern is the lost of almost all our wild spaces in Kidlington. There is very little wild green space to be left to us after the 5000 new houses already given the green light. The stadium may well be relocated on the wild land at the other end of our village, despite extensive local opposition and the threat it poses to the nature reserve at Stratfield Brake. Please let us keep at least this bit of wild land near St Mary's.</p> <p>There has to be a point where we are allowed to keep something for the health and wellbeing of residents current and future. What is the point of the Council making a local plan where land is set aside as undeveloped green belt? This development was not in the agreed council local plan so why is it being added now?</p> <p>Local people use these fields for their health and wellbeing, walking, running, exercising dogs and being in nature. There is so much wildlife here - deer, owls, bats, skylarks, all the beetles and other beasties. It is a great local resource that keeps us healthier and happier across all age ranges, from toddlers to people in the nursing homes in their 80s.</p> <p>If the fields weren't wild and inviting, personally, I would run and walk perhaps only 25% of what I do. I would sit at home and eat when I'm sad instead of going out and walking in the wild to regain strength. The hedgerows and meadows make a huge contribution to my wellbeing. I love to escape the street and find refuge in the little copse and pond at the bottom of Benmead Road and then go on to the church or to thrupp across fields and meadows that must have been there for centuries. My troubles melt away so quickly once I'm there.</p> <p>My 7 year old son loves wildlife and since he is not of age to vote and write to object, I am writing particularly on his behalf. Please forgive that this paragraph is more full of emotion. I feel I owe it to him to express how important this land is to him and his friends. Most weekends and we walk out together across these meadows and fields, listening to the birds, watching the insects and linking us up to Thrupp or across to St Mary's. He tells me all the insects' names. We see skylarks, woodpeckers, burying beetles, dor beetles, crickets, grasshoppers, harvestmen, innumerable types of spiders, butterflies and so many moths. I don't understand why local children can't be allowed to keep some wilderness and it must all be given up for the profit of the few. Walking and running in the wild is my son's main form of exercise. Living near fields inspires him to want to be a biologist and conservationist when he grows up. When the land was being surveyed for building and the mats put out with house numbers, he shouted and cried in despair to think of the animals' wilderness being taken away. He asked me where the animals would go and he said earnestly, that the adults must just not understand what they were doing and not have seen all the wildlife here. Are we to tell these children that the adults care so little about the planet that they will grow up into that we are happy just to brown belt it all? What sort of adults do you think they themselves will grow into if this is the example we set them?</p> <p>Kidlington has no need of another pavillion or cricket pitches. There are already cricket</p>

grounds at the other side of the village and in Cutteslowe to the south and villages all around. Why on earth would we need yet more floodlit sports ground to drive out the natural wildlife? The plan mentions walks and runs as if the development creates these possibilities. It does not. It *restricts* the ability to walk and run; it doesn't increase it. We don't need a manmade park run. There are Kidlington parks and pavement already. We need places for children to learn love and respect for our planet. We need wilderness. Please don't take it away from us.

2) I'm also concerned about traffic on roads near North Kidlington School and the main entrance of the school becoming a much busier road, particularly with construction traffic. If the plan goes ahead, there ought to be speed bumps and crossings set up near the school or a block to motorised traffic between benmead road and the moors.

3) finally it seems unwise to build more in a flood plain. There is already flooding regularly nearby. I would think new building will increase the frequency and level of flooding. Flooding is obviously a horrible thing to happen to householders and it will happen to more and more people here if we keep building on flood plains and as the climate changes.

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Attachments