

From: Philippa Gallie

Sent: 13 January 2026 15:41

To: Councillor Barry Wood <Barry.Wood@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Carlos Chikwamba <Carlos.Chikwamba@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>; Councillor Fiona Mawson <Fiona.Mawson@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Lesley McLean <Lesley.McLean@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>

Cc: landbehindthemoorsINFO@gmail.com

Subject: Planning objection

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I am writing to formally object to the proposed development project on current Green Belt land due to significant concerns regarding its potential impact on the local area.

Firstly, the development poses a serious threat to existing infrastructure. The increased demand would strain local roads, leading to congestion and deterioration, which would affect residents and emergency services alike. Additionally, the additional load on sewage and drainage systems raises concerns about potential overflows and flooding, especially during heavy rainfall, which could damage property and disrupt community life. The drainage around the area is regularly failing, causing the roads to be closed whilst they are patched up. Our roads are already failing due to the weight of traffic and during the wetter months some roads are already impassable.

The impact on flood risk is particularly worrying, as the development may alter natural water flow patterns and reduce the area's capacity to manage floodwaters effectively. This could increase the likelihood of flooding in surrounding neighbourhoods. Flooding can have serious negative effects on local wildlife. When areas flood, nesting birds and other animals may lose their habitats, which can threaten their breeding success and survival. Many nesting birds rely on specific habitats that can be submerged or destroyed by rising water levels, making it difficult for them to find safe places to breed and raise their young. Additionally, flooding can disrupt food sources and migration patterns, further endangering local species. Increased flooding can lead to a decline in biodiversity and harm the delicate balance of the local ecosystem. I care deeply about the preservation of local wildlife and habitats. Habitat loss is one of the biggest threats to birds and bats, and thorough surveys are essential to accurately assess the presence of these species before any development takes place. Conducting surveys at different times of day, like dawn, daytime, and dusk, helps provide a more complete picture of the wildlife in the area, and it sounds like the current surveys may not have been sufficient, especially regarding bats. I believe that surveys have already identified bat roosts.

Trees, native hedgerows, and farmland are hugely for supporting diverse bird and wildlife populations. Protecting these natural features is crucial for maintaining the health of the ecosystem. Additionally, the presence of a live badger sett underscores the need for careful consideration and protection of protected species, including many

birds on the red list that are regularly heard on this land.

Furthermore, the proposal could have detrimental effects on local healthcare and education services. An influx of new residents might put pressure on nearby doctors' surgeries and schools, potentially leading to longer waiting times and reduced quality of service for existing residents. We already have no NHS dentists available in Kidlington and our GP surgeries are bursting at the seams. Appointments are extremely hard to get and GPs are on their knees.

My children and I walk my dog on the proposed site twice a day and removing it will have a noticeable impact on our mental health. Walking and spending time outdoors are known to help reduce stress, improve mood, and boost overall well-being. We love hearing the birds and seeing deer and other wildlife. I keep a record of birds that I have heard using an app and as I have already mentioned many of them are on the red list. We need to protect them, not remove their habitat. We are frequently unable to walk on the other side of St Mary's Church due to flooding, so this area truly is important to us. Our only other alternative would be to drive to walk our dog which seems counterproductive and not good for the environment.

In summary, this development could significantly impact infrastructure, increase flood risk, strain local services, and harm the area's rich wildlife. I urge the planning authority to carefully consider these concerns and prioritise the preservation of our community and natural environment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Philippa Dalton