**From:** Louisa Smith
**Sent:** 29 April 2019 19:30
**To:** DC Support; Councillor George Reynolds; Councillor Douglas Webb
**Subject:** Objections to the proposed Claydon Marina. Application no. 18/00904/F

Dear Council, Councillor Reynolds and Councillor Webb,

I am writing to you to object to the proposed plan to build a marina north of Claydon, the village in which I am resident.

I am deeply concerned at the impact this would have on our small village. I have listed my concerns below:

1) I cannot understand the need for another marina when there is already a substantial marina in Cropredy just a few miles away which has already been enlarged. Unlike Cropredy, Claydon does not have any facilities or services to offer.

2) Although the marina users are classed as 'non-residential', it is likely that many will end up residing on their boats, as has happened in Cropredy and this would put great strain on local services including the GP surgery in Cropredy. It is already a very busy surgery and I currently have to wait 2 weeks for a non-urgent appointment for myself or my young family. Potential new patients from the marina would increase demand for appointments.

3) Increased traffic in a small, quiet village where the roads are single track, already in poor condition and in some places have no pavements. Roads used by pedestrians including those with young children, elderly residents, dog walkers and horse riders. I have 2 children under 6 years old and we are often walking or biking along Main Street and down to the canal on the Boddington Road (the road nearest the proposed marina). Also we walk back from the school bus that stops at Manor Park and have to cross Main Street daily along with other primary school and secondary school children (many of the latter walk home alone). In the opposite direction, heading towards Cropredy on Main Street, there is a blind bend (no pavement) followed by another sharp bend just as you leave the village, right by the village playground and playing field. Drivers that know the village, know to slow down at this point. This would be more dangerous with increased traffic, especially vehicles that don't know the road and could drive carelessly such as those making deliveries to and from the proposed marina.

4) Increased traffic including construction vehicles, on an unsuitable, single track road that is already in poor condition with pot-holes, broken edges, cracks etc. could worsen the state of the road and weaken the canal bridge. Any future road repairs needed would be paid by the tax payer i.e. Claydon residents not marina users who would not be deemed 'residents'.

5) Increased traffic over the steep canal bridge (Hay Bridge). This is a challenge to navigate safely as traffic is not visible when approaching so more traffic could endanger other road users and pedestrians at this section. The approach is single track on both sides of the bridge, requiring vehicles to pull onto the grass verge or roadsides which are already full of potholes to enable passing. Increased traffic will damage these verges and roadsides even further and could put pedestrians and other road users at risk.

6) Increased traffic through the village. Unlike Cropredy which has 3 roads into the village. Most of the traffic to the marina will choose to come through Claydon rather than going north on the Boddington Road to Welsh Road/Banbury Road and onto the main roads (A361 or A423) as sat nav will advise this route.

7) Potential environmental damage. Increased canal traffic will further damage the canal banks which are already severely eroded in some places making the tow path unpassable spoiling the enjoyment of it for local residents including my family who enjoy walking along the tow path.

8)  The proposed development will spoil the landscape especially due to it being 4.5m above road level on what is currently a flat stretch of land.

9) To conclude, the proposed marina will be no advantage to Claydon and bring no benefit to the local residents.

Our area is already subject to HS2 works, a project changing our local landscape and not being of any benefit to local residents.

Thank you for your time. I hope you will consider my views.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Louisa Smith

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