**From:** hughmar
**Sent:** 24 April 2019 09:59
**To:** DC Support; Clare O'Hanlon
**Cc:** Councillor George Reynolds; Councillor Douglas Webb
**Subject:** Proposed Marina @ Claydon ref: 18/00904/F

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to register my objections to the planning application for a proposed marina near Claydon 18/00904/F

By the developers’ own admission the proposed marina will bring no benefit to the village of Claydon. It will however, in my view, adversely affect the character of the village, the lives of the villagers and cost them financially through additional increases in Council Tax.

Claydon and its surroundings are agricultural in nature, a development such as this would have a devastating and detrimental effect on the area, with artificial earth banks towering some 8m above the current ground level and light pollution spoiling what is currently an unblemished view of the night sky. While  the word ‘marina’ conjures images of the sophistication and elegance of luxury yachts in St Tropez, I would venture that most canal marinas are unattractive to look at and more closely resemble overcrowded car parks.

The proposed development is totally disproportionate in size. Claydon is a village of approximately 100 houses, the proposed marina plans mooring for almost 192 boats, potentially tripling the population of the village.

Although the proposed marina is intended to be non-residential, there is no procedure or intention to enforce this. Local precedent shows that this non-residential status is essentially meaningless. As a non-residential site, boat owners and their families will not be liable for Council Tax, but will be free to avail themselves of locally-funded Council Tax services and amenities, not least medical care. Cropredy Surgery is already struggling to meet the demands of the area due to number of new-build houses. The proposed marina would add to this demand with potentially another 192 families in the area who, even as non-residents, could be living within the area for more than 6 months of the year. Additional facilities could only be funded by a rise in Council Tax, paid for solely by the current residents of the area for benefit of those residing at the marina.

Contrary to the developers’ claims regarding access, Boddington Road is a single track road - little more than a farm track - in a bad state of repair that is difficult to navigate even with a small family car. Currently it is little used, but that would obviously change when it became the main access route to the marina, especially when used by heavy vehicles during the large-scale groundworks. The road will undoubtedly need extensive repair and possibly replacement – another cost to the local Council Tax payer.

Heavy traffic and speeding through the village is an increasing problem. This is only likely to increase by additional traffic to and from the marina.

In conclusion, this is a deeply flawed proposal which has been inadequately researched with regard to the impact and costs to the local environs and residents. It should be summarily dismissed and no further proposal of this nature countenanced.

Yours faithfully,

Martin Hughes

28, Manor Park, Claydon