**From:** John Gattley
**Sent:** 20 June 2018 18:03
**To:** planning@cherwell.dc.gov.uk
**Cc:** Alison Smith;
**Subject:** 18/00825/HYBRID 18/002446/F

Attn. Mr Andrew Lewis

Dear Sirs

We wish to comment on, and object to, these applications.

These are for a further 1175 + 297 dwellings, shops, employment and associated buildings. One concern is that  there is No Section 106 money allocated for Somerton, which means no extra funding for general road maintenance, Traffic calming in spite of an inevitable increase in traffic in an area already at its limit to deal with existing transport loads.

**No Section 106 money allocated for Somerton and surrounding roads**

Somerton was included in the previous tranche of funding, so why not this time?  We have seen traffic increase through Somerton Village from an average of:

       - 248 vehicles/day 2000

       - 500 vehicles/day 2009

       - over 1000 vehicles/day 2015

     - 12% over 30 mph

     -14%  OGV1/bus

In 2017 30% of vehicles we found to be exceeding 30mph

Somerton- Ardley Road, an uncategorised road, has seen similar increases in volume and speeding. This road is used by vulnerable road users such as walkers, cyclists and horse riders which makes it more suitable for 40 mph limit.

As well as private transport, Somerton is subjected to increases in e-commerce delivery vans and legions of heavy (and wide) farm vehicles which just did not exist a few years ago. In recent times there is additional 4x4 traffic between the M40 and luxury hotels and spas in the Cotswolds much of which transits Somerton.

Sections of the roads in Somerton have no pavements and with high banks and walls there is no alternative place to walk, which make it dangerous to all pedestrians and, especially, vulnerable road users. As a partially disabled person I can no longer risk walking 250m from my home to our church - even on Sundays. This problem is common to all:  walkers, cyclists and particularly, horse riders.

Also the roads are in a terrible state of repair. This, plus the extra traffic with Dorchester’s developments will make the situation much worse.

This village is reaching the limit of traffic density which the roads can bear. Dorchester’s planned developments, when taken in the context of all the other developments in our part of the Cherwell Valley will overwhelm the two single track bridges at Somerton and Lower Heyford. Given that new roads to move the traffic away from the residential areas would cost too much, creation of a circulatory traffic flow would help. Could plans be made to turn the bridges into one way roads; one going easterly and one westerly? Each bridge would need its own turning circle but the land on which to build them does exist today.

Thank you

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