

Mrs R.L Henson M.A.
Himley Farm Bungalow
Chesterton
Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX26 1RT

1st October 2020



Andrew Lewis
Case Officer
Cherwell District Council
Bodicote House
Bodicote
Banbury
OX15 4AA

Dear Mr Lewis

Ref :Dorchester Homes Masterplan - objection

It has just come to my notice that the above Masterplan application includes a proposal to realign traffic flows from the Middleton Stoney crossroads to divert HGVs away from the direct route to Howes Lane via the B4030 to a more circuitous route via the A4095 through the village of Chesterton .

Under this arrangement, HGVs arriving from the north via the B430 would be required to overshoot the direct eastward route and proceed further southward to the B430/A4095 junction, turn eastward and then northward through the village of Chesterton, thus, in effect, doubling back and adding 2.5 kilometres to the journey, with the corresponding increase in fuel consumption and atmospheric pollution. The proposed left turn at the B430/A4095 junction is actually a double bend, as the highway avoids an ancient tumulus, requiring the use of a lower gear. Further on, a 90 degree bend at The Hale junction at the entrance to the village, the normal hazards of village traffic, a speed hump and chicane at the exit from the village and yet another double bend at the Vendee Drive junction require almost continuous of lower gears, with additional fuel consumption and atmospheric pollution.

Poor visibility at the above-named 90 degree bend at The Hale junction an existing hazard. For the rear wheels of a long articulated lorry to clear the left-hand bend it would be necessary for the front wheels to cross over to the right-hand side of the road. This is clearly an accident waiting to happen, and there can be no excuse for deliberately increasing the probability while a safer alternative exists.

HGVs arriving from the south at present can safely turn right at the Middleton Stoney crossroads with the help of existing traffic lights. Under the proposed arrangement, the right turn onto A4095 would have to be effected without any such help, and would require at least the provision of a right-turn lane and bypass lane for traffic proceeding straight ahead. This in turn would create problems for traffic emerging from the A4095 (technically the major road) on the left.

Chesterton is already a regular 'rat-run' and experiences significant traffic congestion whenever problems arise on major through roads requiring diversion through the village. The suggestion that HGV traffic through the village should be deliberately increased when a viable alternative already exists is ill-thought-out and irresponsible. I wish to register my objection.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

R.L.Henson

Copy to Chesterton Parish Council