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Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been a resident of Mayford for 3 years and have been made aware of the Woking 2027 planning proposals that will impact Mayford. I will refer to the specific site references that I am concerned about and any references used.

Site Reference: GB7 (Ten Acre Farm, Smarts Heath Road)

I understand that there is a requirement to provide provision for the travelling community, however I object to the location proposed. Woking's Traveller sites are currently concentrated in one part of the Borough – Hatchington, Burdeshott Road (one mile from Ten Acre Farm), Ten Acre Farm, Mayford, and Brookwood Lye (three miles from Ten Acre Farm). Mayford already provides a major contribution towards the travelling community and there is no justification for further expansion in Mayford. A dispersed approach would be more appropriate.

Site References:

(Parcel 20 of the Green Belt Review)

GB8 (Nursery land adjacent to Egley Road)

GB9 (Woking Garden Centre, Egley Road)

GB10 (Land to the north east of Saunders Lane, between Saunders Lane and Hook Hill Lane)

GB11 (Land to the north west of Saunders Lane)

GB14 (Land adjacent to Hook Hill Lane, Hook Heath)

I recognise that Woking Council has some difficult choices ahead to meet the expansion requirements set out by Government, and I acknowledge that development is necessary to meet the future needs of the country. The provision of additional schooling in the area and development of amenities could be a good thing if done considerately, however I am concerned that the extent of the proposed development of land around Mayford will lead to:

- A. Loss of identity of this historic village location.
- B. Loss of the rural feel and countryside.
- C. Increased traffic on local roads.

The Green Belt Review clarifies the objectives of Green Belt as:

1. To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas
2. To prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another
3. To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment
4. To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns
5. To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

The proposed development around Mayford appears to contravene points 2, 3, and 4, yet paragraph 3.2.17 of the Green Belt Review states the importance of separation of Woking from Bisley and from Brookwood, however paragraph 3.2.18 dismisses Mayford as having “no significant inter-visibility between towns.” A review of the satellite image from Google Maps shows that there is also separation between Mayford and Woking, suggesting that the reasoning in the report is inconsistent.

In summary, I have mixed views about the proposal. I would like to see some development in facilities in the area, but I am also keen to maintain the semi-rural feel of Mayford and its separate identity as is proposed for other historic areas around Woking.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Martin Cross