

Reference to Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

Lesley Elson [REDACTED]

Sent: 22 July 2015 18:15

To: Planning Policy

Cc: [REDACTED]

Attachments: June 20th 2015 downpour II.jpg (2 MB)

Dear Sirs

I have been a resident of Mayford since 2000, and have been made aware of the Woking 2027 planning proposals that will negatively impact Mayford and our green belt. My comments are not specific to any of your documents, however I will refer to the specific site references that I am concerned about:

Site Reference:

[1] GB7 (Ten Acre Farm, Smarts Heath Road)

I strongly object to the proposal to increase the number of Traveller Pitches on this land. We are informed that WBC approached the owner with little to no proof that this request holds one iota of truth, in fact in raising this directly with the owner his request is rather to replace existing pitches with a more permanent home for him and his ailing wife.

Furthermore Mayford already provides a major contribution towards the Traveller Community, so there is no justification for the expansion in Mayford. Additionally, Ten Acre farm is adjacent to Smarts Heath Common, an SSSI, used by residents of Mayford for leisure purposes. Any increase in the present Traveller site of five caravans at 10 Acre Farm would decrease the visual amenity and character of the area, and increase the risk to wildlife due to increased number of domestic animals in close proximity. Over the years successive Planning Inspectors have refused applications on this site because they reduce the openness of a Green Belt area which seems to have been overlooked yet again.

[2] GB8 (Nursery land adjacent to Egley Road)

[3] GB9 (Woking Garden Centre, Egley Road)

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

[5] GB11 (Land to the north west of Saunders Lane)

I strongly object to the proposal for housing on all of the above sites.

The sheer size and impacts to Mayford are massive and totally disproportional to anything else being tabled. The proposed housing will fill in any green space between Mayford and Woking, thereby turning Mayford into a suburb of Woking and increasing greatly the risk of merging of Woking and Guildford – the whole purpose of the Green Belt. There appears to have been no consideration, frankly disregard, for preserving Mayford Village as a separate settlement to Woking, nor the impact on the character of the Village itself which is already creaking due to the existing schools in the area.

There also appears to have been no consideration to the impact on Mayford's infrastructure that the increased population will result in. More people mean more cars and more strain on the transport infrastructure, flooding, speeding and pollution.

I note that there are no plans to upgrade the roads (some of which have no pavements) or railway bridges (which are all single lane) nor robust solutions to deal with the existing traffic problems in the surrounding roads. Additional houses cannot just be built in areas that have no supporting infrastructure – there will be gridlock, there already is during rush hour and when that's cleared we have speeding cars to contend with, accidents and noise pollution on all roads with people trying to get around on paths/pavements that don't exist !

I invite you to attempt to walk to the Worplesdon station during the winter months with regularity [if you were brave enough], you will be forced to walk on the roads, as there are no pavements, the roads you are looking to fill with even more cars, roads that are filled with pot holes and water due

to being poorly drained surfaces that is due to the very simple fact that WBC can not keep up with maintaining the current infrastructure, let alone roads, drainage systems that will need increased service demands to the wear-and-tear caused by these proposals. This is not some passionate plea based on hearsay but rather fact, I live on Smarts Heath road [SHR], No. 12 to be exact, and was part of the Neighbor Speed Watch, so know from fact that the speed along SHR is continually ignored and I also know that this will increase should your proposed scheme forge ahead irrespective; also personally know the road can not cope from 1-single shower of rain, let alone down-pour due to the infrastructure being poorly maintained causing the cars to break and drive in the middle of the road [see attached photos taken on June 20th] and also know there will be critical accidents because you ignore current issues which will only be exacerbated further.

Please reconsider your plans - what is currently planned will have a devastating impact to Mayford as a Village. Mayford is unique in the U.K. and is mentioned in the Domesday Book; please also refer to the response by the Mayford Village Society who I am happy also to represent my views on this matter too

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Lesley H. Elson

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m. [REDACTED]