

Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

Liz Macpherson [REDACTED]

Sent: 29 July 2015 00:32

To: Planning Policy

Cc: [REDACTED]

Mrs Elizabeth Macpherson

[8 Mannington Road](#)

[Wanganui](#)

New Zealand

[REDACTED]
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28th July 2015

Regarding: Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

Dear Woking Borough Council,

I have been a visitor to Mayford for the last 7 years as my son and his young family live on Saunders Lane. I have been made aware of the Woking 2027 planning proposals that will impact Mayford and feel compelled to email my views on this from the other side of the world.

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 References:

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 strongly object to the proposal for housing on all of the above sites for the following reasons:

When I visit the UK from New Zealand, I very much enjoy taking my grand children for walks in the surrounding Green Belt land. The land allows the children to explore and enjoy the wildlife, as well as burn off energy. My grandson in particular enjoys searching for bugs and rabbits. Whilst my grand daughter who is a keen runner enjoys running up and down the hills. We tend to walk from the land at the North West of Saunders Lane down to the Mayford Village Hall where the children enjoy seeing the horses grazing and then playing in the little playground that has a lovely outlook over the fields. It would be a crying shame if Mayford was to lose this Green Belt land as it is enjoyed by both young and old.

When I am in the UK I do not tend to drive as the roads are too busy compared to what I am use to in New Zealand, so walks down to the Woking Garden Centre with my grand children to feed the fish there and have a drink and a cake in the café is very valuable time and being so close to Saunders Lane is an ideal walk for myself and the kids. I have noticed recently though that Saunders Lane is a lot busier and a number of cars are clearly driving faster than they should. In particular where the road narrows by where my son lives I have been concerned when walking with the children as the

footpaths are not wide enough. The proposed developments would have a significant impact to the amount of traffic on Saunders Lane and in Mayford in general.

I know my son and his wife chose to live in Mayford because of its ease of access to London with Woking and Worplesdon stations nearby. I have travelled up to London on the train with my son during peak and off peak times and I was astounded by his daily commute from Worplesdon. The drive to the station which is only about 5 minutes away can take longer due to the traffic on Smarts Heath Lane. I know he sometimes walks to and from the station, but he has said that the roads do not have footpaths and can be dangerous with the speed limit at 40. The train up to London from Worplesdon is standing room only and on the times I have travelled with him there has been not much standing room at all!

Finally, my son mentioned that the Green Belt Review recommended Mayford on the basis of the ease of access to Woking Town Centre, stating that it takes 7 minutes to travel from Mayford to Woking. As a visitor to Mayford that regularly uses the taxis to get into Woking from Saunders Lane, I can tell you that I have never made it to Woking Station (which I consider to be the Town Centre) in less than 15 minutes. The proposed developments I believe would have a significant impact on the road infrastructure around Mayford, making it busier, more dangerous and also from what I have seen the trains would struggle to cope with many more passengers.

I understand that there is a need to identify new sites for housing and the Council have tough decisions to make, but please reconsider your plans to ensure that Mayford retains the Green Belt and allows future generations to enjoy it as I do when I visit my grandchildren.

Yours sincerely,
Elizabeth Macpherson

Sent from my iPad