

Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

Maxine Pringle [REDACTED]

Sent: 31 July 2015 09:20

To: Planning Policy

Cc: [REDACTED]

Mr Robin & Mrs Maxine Pringle

35 Liffiton Street

Gonville

Wanganui

New Zealand

[REDACTED]
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31st July 2015

Dear Sirs,

Regarding: Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

Last year we were visitors to Mayford where we stayed with the Macpherson family in Saunders Lane. We have recently been made aware of the Woking 2027 planning proposals that will impact Mayford and wanted to provide the following comments and objections.

Site References:

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)

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

1) When we visited the UK and Europe last year, we really enjoyed staying in Mayford and the surrounding Green Belt. The Macpherson children told us how they enjoyed exploring and playing in the Green Belt and watching the wildlife. As such when we heard about the proposed developments we researched online about the Green Belt, and from our research we understand that the UK Government attaches great importance to the Green Belts as they serve five purposes:

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

It would appear that the proposed developments do not take into account any of the above and will deprive the Mayford and surrounding communities of a beautiful area which they can enjoy and is a natural habitat for a lot of wildlife.

2) Whilst on walks down to the Woking Garden Centre or around the Green Belt we noticed how busy the traffic was at times and how the one lane bridge at Smarts Heath Road was a bottleneck. If the proposed developments go ahead then it would appear to us that Mayford's Road infrastructure will certainly not be able to handle an increase in traffic and there would basically be gridlock.

3) During our stay we travelled up to London from Worplesdon station a number of times both in peak and non-peak hours and we were amazed by the number of people travelling on the trains and the fact that during the peak hours you had to squeeze on to the trains and did not get a seat. If the proposed developments go ahead there will probably be an increase in commuters from Worplesdon which would have a significant impact on Worplesdon station and the current commuters.

We believe the proposed developments would have a significant impact on the wildlife and road infrastructure around Mayford, making it busier, more dangerous and also from what we have seen the trains would struggle to cope with many more passengers. We hope you reconsider your development plans to ensure that the residents and visitors to Mayford Village can enjoy the Green Belt for generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

Robin & Maxine Pringle