

Hillview
Heath House Road
Woking
Surrey
GU22 0QU

27th July 2015

The Planning Policy Team
Woking Borough Council
Civic Offices
Gloucester Square
Woking
Surrey
GU21 6YL

Sent by e-mail to: planning.policy@woking.gov.uk

Dear Sirs,

Regarding: Woking 2027 DPD Consultation

I have been a resident of Mayford for 3 ½ years and have been made aware of the Woking 2027 planning proposals that will impact Mayford. 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:

GB7 (Ten Acre Farm, Smarts Heath Road)

I vehemently object to the proposal to increase the number of Traveller Pitches on this land. We currently have several Traveller Sites in our immediate vicinity, Hatchington, Burdenshott Road, Ten Acre Farm, Mayford and Brookwood Lye. I feel that we already have made fair provision in our local area and there is no justification for the Councillors to permit any further sites in our beautiful village. The whole purpose of having Green Belt land is to preserve the countryside, not destroy it. Green Belt land as I know should only ever be altered in "exceptional circumstances", and I certainly do not feel that this is one of those circumstances!

I do not believe that any evidence has been produced to demonstrate that Woking Borough Council have exhausted the more viable Brownfield sites for development in its Local Plan, and therefore cannot comprehend how you can even consider Green Belt land at this stage. You will be destroying what is a beautiful natural community and turn it into something

grotesque. I do not believe that our country lanes can cope with any increase in traffic, which is another area to be considered of course, they are already congested at peak times. You

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are already planning to build a school on the Nursery Site at Egley Road, which will dramatically increase the volume of traffic to our already narrow lanes – please don't make our lanes like" the A3 on a Friday afternoon going south – a car park!!"

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 also increase risk to wildlife due to increased number of domestic animals in close proximity. Travellers are very intimidating people, they steal without reason, they leave copious amounts of rubbish in their wake, their children are aggressive and very disruptive to the local community and village schools – PLEASE don't permit this site – and destroy our beautiful village !!

Over the years, as I understand it successive Planning Inspectors have refused applications on this site because they reduce the openness of a Green Belt area.

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)

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

The 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 for preserving Mayford as a separate settlement to Woking, nor the impact on the character of the Village.

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. I note that there are no plans to upgrade the roads (some of which have no pavements or lighting) or railway bridges (which are all single lane) nor robust solutions to deal with the existing traffic problems on Egley Road. Houses cannot just be built in areas that have no supporting infrastructure – there will be gridlock. Prey Heath Road will become very dangerous as increased traffic to Worplesdon station will be weaving around people walking on the road (as there are no pavements).

Not only will the wildlife in the developed areas be wiped out, but also there will be increased risk to wildlife in our protected Heaths (Smarts Heath and Prey Heath) due to the proximity of the development.

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PLEASE, PLEASE, 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.

Yours sincerely,

Paul and Gemma Robinson