

Malcolm Carter

From: bill corry <billcorrys@gmail.com>
Sent: 01 November 2015 20:13
To: coordinator@ashtonkeynesneighbourhood.com
Subject: Objection to Planned Development North of Gosditch Greenfield site

Dear Co-ordinator

(I tried putting this on the Pre-submission Consultation but the site crashed as I was doing it - so please accept this comment on it below).

The Neighbourhood Plan is excellent in that it preserves the rural village by only building on brownfield sites like Carters Old yard and the old Cotswold Community sites.

There are key greenfield sites identified that need special protection for the village and it is not a good idea to allow construction of new housing on these important areas. The proposed area north of Gosditch between the B4696 and School needs protecting for these reasons:

Loss of an important ecological site.

Loss of an important open space and public footpaths within the village popular with children, dog walkers, tourists and Thames Path walkers

Creation of village sprawl. Allowing this development will set a precedent and will be a catalyst for the loss of other open green spaces around the village.

The school has been 100% full for many years with a long waiting list. Every class has its maximum of 30-32 children and residents within 50 yards of the school have had applications turned down.

Physically this site is at risk of river and groundwater flooding and the west end is always flooded in winter..

Thames Water put up high security fences all round its site boundary due to a Health & Safety Issue years ago because of the risk of Escaping Toxic Gas being a possibility if a major incident occurred due to a malfunction of the water treatment works. This is still risky.

Site access will see even more traffic on Gosditch and the B4696 which has seen many horrific accidents over the last 35 years despite the speed limit reduction from 60mph to 40mph and road bumps. Last year a young driver overtaking on a blind bend at Gosditch exit had a head-on collision with a south bound car on the B4696!

Previous attempts to have access to the B4696 have been turned down on safety fears with blind bends in both directions.

Please do not allow any further reduction of the greenfields of the village under any circumstances as it is a permanent loss.

Channel 4 did a documentary years ago on the Thames Path and opened a book of poetry given to the soldiers in WWI with a picture of adjacent Church Walk in the book - to remind them what they were fighting for.

Also this river area was filmed as part of the 2012 Olympic Games with a birds eye view going down the Thames from Kemble.

No urban sprawl was noted until Cricklade.

Also this area has the headwaters of the Thames - what pollution safeguards have we here for future generations.

I agree wholeheartedly with preserving what is left of our green and pleasant land for future generations - as in the exiting plan.

Green fields - When its gone its gone, you cannot ever get it back. It is too precious to waste.

Yours Sincerely

Bill Corry

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