

Planning application comment was submitted on the **11 April 2024 20:14 PM**

The following is a comment on application **P240422/F** by **Joanne Jones**

Nature of feedback: Objecting to the application

Comment: Regarding:

Planning Reference P240422/F Land to the East of Hereford

As permanent residents in Herefordshire we strongly object to the above Planning application for the following reasons and urge the Council to refuse it because:

1. Local Schools are oversubscribed and travel to other schools increases traffic congestion and danger of accidents both for vehicles and people walking to school. This breaches Hereford Core Strategy SS7, NPPF 109, 110, 114, 116, 192 and 194 as well as NPPF 115.
2. Monitoring of traffic: if this is carried out between 16.00 – 18.00 hours, this is not a true representation of traffic at school start times and school finish times, the later starts at 15.00 and parents park from 14.00 onwards to ensure they get a parking space! Traffic needs to be monitored between 14.00 – 16.00 hours.
3. In terms of a new primary school to be built as part of the proposed new development: Herefordshire Council cannot fund this and therefore the primary school should be built and be fully functioning PRIOR to the building of any new houses commencing. Children from residents in the adjoining Bishops Fields development who currently have their catchment area for primary school out of area, resulting in them have to travel to schools out of town, could start to use the school.
4. No additional land for a secondary school or college has been identified. This needs attention and land for it needs to be allocated.
5. Local dentists' and GPs' surgeries are oversubscribed. It is difficult to get appointments and patients have to wait for weeks before they can see a doctor. Even then they often only get telephone appointments. The surgeries as well as current patients simply cannot cope with another 700 – 1,000 patients. It will lengthen waiting times even further and therefore endanger lives.
6. The same applies to hospital beds, A&E departments and emergency services. They are already overstretched and any increase will further endanger lives.
7. All distances and travel times in table 3.1 of the Travel Plan in the planning application are understated and real times breach NPPF 108, 109, 116 and 117, perhaps that is why they have been understated in the planning application. For example: It takes the average person more than a 6 minute walk to the bus stop at the Cock of Tupsley and to walk to the hospital takes 50 minutes, not 35 minutes as stated in the application. It is not stated from which point in the proposed development these times are measured.
8. It is not realistic to assume that travel will only be taking place at certain times and therefore carbon emissions from additional traffic will not be increased as indicated in the Travel Plan of the application. Of course any ADDITIONAL traffic will increase carbon emissions! How can it not! If the traffic is additional, then the carbon emissions from that traffic are also additional! Obviously increased carbon emissions increase the danger to public health and breach NPPF 114, 186, 192 and 194.

9. A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is extremely close to the proposed development. An increase in footfall, dogs, cats, noise, traffic, pollution, rubbish, soil disturbance, water pollution during construction etc. from the proposed development can endanger rare plants, stop protected curlews and skylarks from nesting in the area. There is a real danger that the strategies suggested would NOT protect this valuable area and breach Hereford Core Strategy SS6, SS7, LD1, LD2, LD3. The Planning application needs to be refused because NPPF 120, 180 – 188, 191 and 194 applies.

10. This huge proposed development will result in the loss of dark skies. It is well researched, and documented that light pollution damages people's health in terms of disrupting sleeping patterns and causing mental health issues. Light pollution also confuses wildlife, stops night pollinating insects and negatively affects bats, which are protected. The lighting strategy suggested in the planning application does not completely eliminate lighting pollution and therefore breaches LD1, LD2, SS6, NPPF 185, 186, 188, 191 and 194.

11. Any development in this area will further increase the risk of widespread flooding. Much of this area has already been flooded for many months this winter and spring. There is a potential increase of worsening the flooding risk in the Hampton Dene/Tupsley/Lugg Meadows area which is already at risk of flooding. This risk will be increased by climate change. NPPF 159 applies to this point.

12. There will be damage to the adjoining valuable flood plain habitat for over-wintering birds and this breaches Hereford Core Strategy SS6 and 7, LD1, 2 and 3, NPPF 120, 188, 191 and 194.

13. The increased nitrate and phosphate pollution to rivers already at risk will worsen due to run off from hard standing areas, gardens and drainage in the proposed development and this breaches Hereford Core Strategy SS6 and 7, SD4, NPPF174,189 and 194.

14. The proposed development will lead to the loss of beautiful open landscape, which is highly visible from a long way away. It will also extend the city boundaries. SS6. LD1, 2, 3, 4. SD1, NPPF 120, 174, 175, 180, 185, 188 and 194 would be breached.

For all of the reasons detailed and referenced above we urge you to REFUSE the. planning application Planning Reference P240422/F Land to the East of Hereford.

Attachment:

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Hereford

Herefordshire

Infrastructure from section 106 to consider: Schools, GP surgery, Hospital, better transport links (all listed above)

Link ID: https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200142/planning_services/planning_application_search/details?id=240422

Form reference: FS-Case-605034947