

PLANNING REF : 241933
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 8 Heathlands Court
: Heathlands Road, Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG40 3AY
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Peter Fagan
DATE SUBMITTED : 07/11/2024

COMMENTS:

I object to this application (241933) and I object also to application 242279.

The planned development will erode or completely remove, the boundary between Wokingham and Bracknell. I imagine in the overall planning process, that seems a detail. However

On the basis of this development, I will need to loop out to join the road into Bracknell in order to get into Wokingham. Why would I bother? The Lexicon in Bracknell has a wider range of shops, and almost guaranteed parking. There's no incentive for me to go into Wokingham to shop. I'll just turn right.

If you have lived in the area for any amount of time, you will know that just a minor glitch on one of the roads into Wokingham causes chaos on the remaining routes. The infrastructure is very finely alanced - there's simply no capacity for more traffic. Try driving down from Star Lane to Holme Grange in the morning on a school day, or in the other direction, towards the junction with Heathlands Road.

Others have rightly pointed out the impact on local wildlife, and the inevitable destruction of the local environment, which once built on, can never be reclaimed. At the moment, Wokingham is a charming town with a strong, vibrant community. It regularly features in the survey of happiest places to live. It was described in one national daily as "an adorable market town". This development will make it a suburb of Bracknell.

The current wider sense of identity in the town supports local events such as the Spring Fayre. What happens when that sense of community is eroded? Reducing the footfall for Wokingham's traders, and simultaneously reducing the attractiveness of the town, are not in the interests of the community, neither existing nor projected.

Cramming this many houses into the limited gap between Wokingham and Wokingham Without will have both social and economic consequences, in addition to the more direct impacts highlighted in the comments from others.