

PLANNING REF : 261171
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 1 Lowlands
: The Street, Swallowfield, Berks
: RG7 1RB
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Kathleen Holmes
DATE SUBMITTED : 15/06/2026

COMMENTS:

As a resident of Swallowfield Village I feel that the proposed planning application 261171 does not take into account the impact this will have on the village and surrounding area.

Already there are new houses being built following a previous planning application, and there is no infrastructure to deal with the number of cars and the increase in the population. We have a Doctors Surgery which is overstretched and will soon to be dealing with even more patients, but adding yet even more people, and traffic to the village seems very shortsighted. It is not always easy to get

appointments at the Surgery and adding to the number of residents who need to access the service makes absolutely no sense.

Many of the roads are single track around the village, and are used by cyclists, local walking groups and horse riders, and it seems ridiculous to consider allowing more large vehicles on these roads.

During the winter the roads and fields around Swallowfield are flooded, the area that is the proposed site for the planning application is an area where the flooding occurs, so travelling can be a problem and safety for road users has to be a priority. Large and heavy vehicles using these single track roads make driving on our

local roads very precarious for residents. The recent incident on Swallowfield Bridge shows how life can be made difficult for residents when there is an inappropriate use of these roads. The necessary use of tankers to deal with the problem of no mains water supply or sewage to the site would mean even more heavy vehicles on our single track roads increasing the danger to other road users and pedestrians. The proposed site just does not seem suitable for what is proposed.

We do not have local schools, which means the children have to be transported either by parents, local bus or school buses. Common sense says that however the children are transported, it will mean that the more children that will have to travel to school equals more traffic on our local roads. People also need transport to be able to attend appointments, work, and access to supermarkets, and bus services are somewhat limited and not always at the times they are most needed. We do have a Village Shop for essential items but for main shopping people need to use the local roads to access these things and extra traffic is now of concern.

Swallowfield is a beautiful village that has kept its character, and to some extent its way of life, and is not suitable for constant expansion. It seems that the proposal for the planning application is at odds with WBC's emerging local plan and is contrary to the purpose of the green belt.

Please consider the impact that increasing the population of Swallowfield even more than is already proposed will have on those residents that live in the village now.