

PLANNING REF : 241567  
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Redgauntlet Finchampstead  
: Wokingham, Berkshire  
: RG40 4XH  
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Tim Reenan  
DATE SUBMITTED : 20/07/2024

COMMENTS:

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed development of 40 new houses on Longwater Road, situated between Finchampstead and Eversley. I firmly believe that this particular project is deeply flawed and incompatible with the character of our community.

1. Infrastructure Strain: The existing strain on local services, including GP appointments, is already a pressing issue. Adding 40 new homes to the area without adequate provisions for healthcare, schools, and transportation will exacerbate this strain. We cannot afford to compromise the well-being of existing residents.

2. Transport Accessibility: The proposed development won't be easily accessible by public transport with no local bus route and the nearest rail station a few miles away. With more cars on the roads, congestion will increase, affecting not only residents of the new development but also those who already call this area home. We need sustainable solutions that prioritize public transport and reduce reliance on private vehicles.

3. Scale and Suitability: The proposed size and scale of this development are wholly unsuitable for our community. Longwater Road is a quiet, rural lane, and shoehorning 40 houses into this space would disrupt the natural landscape and overwhelm the surroundings. Our local services and infrastructure simply cannot cope with such a sudden influx.

4. Identity and Character: Finchampstead is more than just a collection of houses; it is a community with a unique identity. The encroachment of thousands of new homes, such as those on the Nine Mile Ride extension and Finchwood Park estates, is already eroding the village's sense of place. It is vitally important to protect what makes the village special.

The absence of a local plan or a five-year land supply is a critical concern. Without clear guidelines, applications from land owners with profit driven motives like this one can slip through without proper scrutiny and I implore the Planning Committee to reject outright this application.