

PLANNING REF : 241567
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 18 Woodmoor Finchampstead
: Wokingham, Berkshire
: RG40 3TT
SUBMITTED BY : Miss Dawn Marie Kenyon
DATE SUBMITTED : 27/07/2024

COMMENTS:

As a resident living directly adjacent to this field I am among those who will be most affected by this unsuitable development. We chose our house as it was on the village settlement boundary, with a quiet aspect which we believed would be preserved as the field in question was outside the Finchampstead plan. The site does still not comply with the recently updated Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan. As a local resident I regularly use the footpath which runs through the site, enjoying the quick access to nature. If developed this would become a path between housing estates and would spoil the character and footpath links through the village. As our house backs directly onto the site we are best placed to know the wealth of wildlife which use the field: deer, foxes, badgers, red kites, barn owls and bats. I am especially concerned that the bat population will be affected by the noise and light pollution which such a large development would cause. As a volunteer for the Moor Green Lakes Group I am also aware of potential risks to the recently developed nature reserve to the south of the site. By developing on the field it would remove the green buffer which is important in preserving the bird populations on the reserve and which many animals use to keep away from roads and housing. Finally I am concerned about the unsustainability of the site. We have no public transport in Finchampstead village and no local services within walking distance, since our shop and Post office closed, therefore residents have to drive everywhere. 40 houses could easily mean 80 more cars on our narrow and congested roads. Longwater Road may have a 30mph speed limit into the village but cars travel faster than that and another housing development poses more potential risks to motorists and pedestrians. I feel that the developer's plan for the site is wholly out of character for the area and would spoil this small village.