

PLANNING REF : 242067
PROPERTY ADDRESS : School Road
: Hurst
: RG100RD
SUBMITTED BY : Dr H Hamer
DATE SUBMITTED : 18/09/2024

COMMENTS:

I wish to object to this planning application

This is an unsustainable location as has been ruled previously. The land is open countryside/arable land and should not be developed. As a country food security is a real problem and will impact future generations catastrophically if we fail to protect arable land from development. The impact on biodiversity will be unacceptable at a time when we are seeing more species added to the endangered list month on month. In this rural community we see hedgehogs, bats, newts including great crested newts, bees, butterflies, toads, frogs, and an extensive range of native birds. A single oak tree provides sufficient caterpillars to raise one nest of Blue Tits- so for them that Oak Tree really matters. I know others have raised the concerns regarding flooding. Flooded roads and sewage backed up into toilets and flowing along the roads in Hurst are already frequent occurrences- building on open countryside will significantly add to the risk for existing residents. Public transport links are inadequate and are not addressed in this application- a minibus for 14 people available only to the new residents will not remove car dependency from existing or future residents. The infrastructure of Hurst cannot support this population growth - roads, pavements, schools, shops, leisure facilities , health care are all at capacity and new residents would need to use a car to access health care, education, food shopping, employment, leisure and entertainment. At the same time this development would add to local pollution and that in Wokingham and Twyford and destroy the one thing it has which is contact with nature. At a time when Mental health is rising among the population at all ages we should preserve the access to nature that is recognised amongst the medical profession as beneficial to Mental health and the Government pledged to prioritise access to nature in 2023. This proposal is as harmful , unsustainable and inappropriate as the proposal thrown out in 2023 after a hearing with the planning inspector. It should be refused.