

PLANNING REF : 241567
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 9 Burnmoor Meadow
: Finchampstead, Berkshire
: RG40 3TX
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Yasmine Habbitts
DATE SUBMITTED : 27/07/2024

COMMENTS:

I wish to object to this application, and my reasons are as follows:

- I frequently use the footpaths surrounding this area for walking to clear my mind, listen to the nature and restore my mental wellbeing. The views afforded by these footpaths over the green spaces are extremely restorative for my mental health, especially when you can see the deers, birds, badgers, etc, navigating their natural habitat - we are so lucky to have this in Finchampstead on our doorstep. I am extremely concerned that this development will severely impact not only the habitats of so many creatures, but also my own mental wellbeing. I walk these paths everyday as a coping mechanism, and it would be extremely detrimental to my mental health if I was to lose this due to clumsily located urbanisation.

- Furthermore, I worry that the addition of more families into the immediate area will severely impact the availability of local services. I am expecting a child later this year and after noting that the local school has been historically at capacity already, how will my child be able to go to the school which is less than a 2 minute walk away from us, if a place is not available due to an even bigger surge of demand for school places? This would be heartbreaking and cause an unnecessary increase of commuting/driving in what is already a very limited location with no public transport links. We have one bus that comes once a week and does not make a return journey! It is impossible to live here without a car and frankly do we need more of these congesting the village. Will people in affordable housing comfortably be able to afford a car along with the fuel needed for the copious amounts of travel required just to go to the supermarket (miles away)/doctors surgery (not accessible on foot safely)/work (nearest town is 15-20 minutes away when there aren't road works!). It is honestly such a lovely village to live in because we are quieter and not well connected, but this means we cannot support the types of families that require local transport.

- I also understand that the local doctors surgery is at capacity, with no other nearby alternative - it seems irresponsible to allow a development of houses which will not be able to provide the owners with access to vital services.

- As a resident at Burnmoor Meadow, I know the water table can be very high here, especially on the common directly opposite the proposed development, even if it looks dry, trust me, your soaking wet trainers will tell you otherwise! Is this really a safe and suitable foundation to build houses on? We have about 3 good months a year when you can walk this land without wellies, and that is also true for the

footpaths that surround the proposed development. The rest of the year is muddy puddles galore! Surely not appropriate to build a house on - insurance would be a nightmare for the new homeowners.

- Additionally, the Thames water plant which is directly next to the proposed development and already is overflowing without the additional burden of 40 more households & we also experience

powercuts in the village every few months, I really don't think that this corner of the village is geared up for accommodating any more households with the infrastructure we have at present - a new development is unsustainable and will negatively impact already overburdened resources.