

PLANNING REF : 241467
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 15 Canberra Lake Way
: Twyford, Berkshire
: RG10 9DH
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Nick Stonehill
DATE SUBMITTED : 20/07/2024

COMMENTS:

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the proposed development of 40 houses on Longwater road in Finchampstead. While I understand the need for new housing, I believe this specific development will have a significant negative impact on our local community for the following reasons:

1. Traffic and Safety Concerns: The addition of 40 houses will inevitably lead to a substantial increase in traffic on our already congested roads. Finchampstead's infrastructure is not designed to handle such an influx of vehicles, which will exacerbate traffic jams, increase the risk of accidents, and pose a threat to pedestrian safety, especially for schoolchildren and the elderly.

2. Environmental Impact: The proposed development site is an area of natural beauty and ecological significance. Constructing 40 houses will lead to the loss of green spaces, harm the local wildlife habitat of Moor Green Lakes and disrupt the biodiversity in the area. The environmental assessment does not appear to adequately address these impacts, nor does it propose sufficient mitigation measures.

3. Pressure on Local Services: The current local services, including schools, healthcare facilities, and public transport, are already operating at or near full capacity. An influx of new residents will put further strain on these services, leading to a decline in the quality of education, healthcare, and overall community well-being.

4. Lack of Infrastructure: Finchampstead lacks the necessary infrastructure to support a development of this scale. The village does not have the requisite amenities, such as shops, recreational facilities, or sufficient public transport links, to accommodate the needs of an increased population.

5. Heritage and Character of the Village: Finchampstead has a unique character and heritage that would be compromised by such a large development. The scale and design of the proposed housing do not appear to be in keeping with the traditional aesthetics and architectural style of the village, which will detract from its historical charm.

In conclusion, while I appreciate the need for new housing, I strongly believe that this development is not suitable for Finchampstead due to the reasons outlined above. I urge the planning committee to consider alternative solutions that would not have such a detrimental impact on our community.