

63 Boundary Walk
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 0LZ

11th June 2020

Wiltshire Council
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire

For the attention of Development Services

Dear Sir/Madam

Application No: 20/03641/OUT

Location: Land south of White Horse Business Park, Trowbridge

I am writing in connection with the above planning application and wish to raise the following concerns:

- The site is located on the main southerly route into Trowbridge, which is already a very congested route with heavy traffic that backs up to Yarnbrook at busy times. This congestion is already exacerbated by the one way system from the Bradley Road retail park exit which funnels all traffic to the roundabout at the junction with Woodmarsh and which at busy times is at gridlock. Placing further housing and access routes in this already congested location will inevitably lead to a further increase in traffic, further congestion and therefore to an unacceptable increase in pollution levels and a decrease in highway safety.
- The site location is on the green belt which separates Trowbridge and North Bradley, building on this land will merge parish boundaries, which is in contravention of Wiltshire Council's policy commitment to maintain parish boundaries.
- The site is a green space and nature corridor and this development would lead to the destruction, rather than conservation of, an open green space, wildlife habitats, trees and floral diversity.
- The development would lead to a loss of daylight and privacy for existing residents on the site perimeters, and increase noise disturbance both during the development phase and thereafter due to an increase in traffic both vehicular and human.

- With yet another housing development in Trowbridge there will inevitably be a further increase in demand on existing infrastructure such as, schooling, employment opportunities, policing, doctors and dental practices, it is already impossible to find a dentist with capacity so more housing and an increase in population would place a further burden on already stretched services.
- With regard to employment specifically, the southern area of Trowbridge is not an ideal location for employment as commuting is mainly to the north of the county, which benefits from easier access to the M4 and other major routes, increased commuting from the south to north will increase traffic, congestion and pollution on the surrounding roads, all of which are single carriageway, and also negatively impact other small towns such as Melksham, which has major existing issues with traffic congestion.
- The population of Trowbridge has already increased from 33108 at the 2011 Census to 45822 2018 ONS estimate, which is a massive increase in just 7 years and now gives Trowbridge a population almost the size of the city of Salisbury, which benefits from a city infrastructure, whereas Trowbridge infrastructure remains that of a small market town.
- With specific regard to the development of a Class C2 care home facility. As a result of the ongoing pandemic the existing local care sector has been devastated, occupancy has reduced and capacity has increased, this is likely to continue as a legacy of the pandemic due to public perceptions of care facilities having been damaged and a reluctance of families to place their elderly relatives in to care. Any further care facilities would negatively impact upon the viability of existing care providers who are already struggling financially. The most recent new care facility in Trowbridge, Goodson Lodge, has never run at full capacity and the Extra Care facility at Chantry Court in Westbury likewise. To approve yet another care facility locally would further destabilise an already fragile sector. In addition the care sector already experiences significant challenges to staff recruitment and retention and sourcing staff for yet another care facility would further negatively impact the existing market.

For these reasons I strongly object to this development being given permission to proceed.

Yours faithfully

Lesley Hilton