

My concerns over this application are as follows:

**1. Number of new houses in Lyneham**

Lyneham is to all intents and purposes divided between military estate housing (over 700 outside the wire) and non-military housing. Up until 2020 the number of non military houses was around 1400. Since then, permission for a over 300 additional houses has been granted, there is also an application for 135 going through the system as well as this application for 200. Should this application be approved, this will represent just shy of a 50% increase in civilian population in around 5 years. Lyneham is a large village with limited infrastructure and will struggle to assimilate such a large number of additional houses into the community.

**2. Relationship to the rest of the village/ Community Cohesion**

The east end of the village is predominantly military. With the exception of Freestone Farm and its 2 cottages, plus 2 work related houses at the Chicken Farm, all property at this end of the village is military. The only connection to the rest of Lyneham Village is along the very busy A3102. This is not a pleasant walk, as it is a main freight route, and busy with many HGVs and military vehicles visiting MoD Lyneham. Leaving Lyneham towards Goatacre, the end of the village is demarked by the MoD "B" site which forms a clear edge of village, industrial boundary. This application would create a satellite development with no connection to the rest of the village due to the difficulties with walking / cycling.

**3. Coalescence with Goatacre**

At present, there is a clear separation between the village of Lyneham and the village of Goatacre. Should this development be permitted, the gap between the two settlements will be greatly diminished, and the distinct identity of the two settlements will be lost.

**4. Pressure on Utilities and Services**

There is already considerable pressure on all of the utilities in the village, particularly with water. Firm timescales for provision of utilities should be determined to assess realistic delivery of the development .

a. Gas

b. Electricity

c. Water

d. Sewerage

**5. Health provision**

Some Lyneham residents are allocated to GPs in Royal Wootton Bassett and some to Calne, however with more housing planned for both towns, residents of Lyneham are struggling to gain access to GP surgeries and NHS dentists. A GP surgery for Lyneham has been investigated and refused.

## **6. Education**

It is likely that Lyneham Primary School will have sufficient space for children 11 and under. The journey to the school would be an unpleasant walk along the A3102, crossing the entrance to MoD B Site, a journey with which some families may not be comfortable due to the traffic.

The route is not suitable for cycling for young children, let alone adults.

The picture for secondary education is looking more complex.

Children from the main Lyneham village attend RWB Academy. Children from Goatacre and Hilmarton will generally go to Kingsbury Green Academy in Calne. It is unclear whether or not children from this development would be allocated to RWB or Calne. This will result in a split in the village with further strains on community cohesion.

## **7. Active Travel**

The provision of a cycle route around the estate is a nod to active travel, however to get anywhere off the site using active travel would necessitate getting onto the A3102 either on foot or by bicycle. As previously mentioned, this is a main road and a busy route, with many large vehicles, which is not conducive to cycling or walking. The road is not wide enough to introduce a cycle lane. Meaningful active travel is therefore going to be challenging if not impossible.

## **8. Access onto A3102**

The A3102 is a busy road. Residents trying to join the road from other parts of the village are already complaining about the length of time this can take during peak traffic times.

## **9. Employment**

There are very few employment opportunities within Lyneham village apart from the MoD. This would result therefore in the majority of residents out-commuting.

## **10. Conclusion**

The application should be refused, as it would result in a satellite community, poorly related and connected to the existing civilian community of Lyneham, adding pressure on already stretched utilities and services, and coalescing with the adjacent village of Goatacre.