

From: Lynn Gardiner [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 February 2019 13:45
To: Planning Policy South
Subject: Objections to STRAT: 13 Land to the North of Bayswater Brook

Sirs,

I would like to submit the following comments/objections to the SODC Local Plan 2034 with regard to STRAT: 13 Land to the North of Bayswater Brook:

1. As a long time resident of [REDACTED], I am very concerned about the implications for extra traffic travelling along Bayswater Road to access Green Road roundabout, and return, in particularly during the rush hour. I currently use public transport to go to my place of work and it is not an unfamiliar sight to see traffic backed all the way down the hill and not unknown to see it backed as far as the Crematorium and beyond. The road from Kidlington through to Islip and then onto the "White House" turn or carrying straight on to access the A40 East through Stanton St John and Forest Hill, is already a rat run for commuters travelling from the north and is an acknowledged dangerous road. It is hard to imagine the extra length of journeys into Oxford (either by car or bus) with the addition of a further thousand houses.

As it now stands the people of Barton have only one way off the estate heading to the rest of Oxford and that is going to become far more congested.

2. Which brings us onto the second objection, which is the extra pollution that will ensue from this extra traffic.

3. Flooding is another great concern. The recreation ground that runs parallel and adjacent to Bayswater Brook, and the strips of land further along where housing has already been built nearly to the brook (off the bottom of Barton Village Road) all floods in winter or in the event of heavy rain storms. The fields on the other side of the brook also flood, and the brook itself often reaches the top of its banks. My husband could remember seeing the brook overflow its banks in the past. Also the dip on Bayswater Road where it crosses the brook floods in heavy rain to the extent that is not navigable by many cars. The coming of a thousand houses adjacent to the brook will obviously make drainage even more of a problem.

4. Lack of plans for an infrastructure supporting this many homes is also of concern. My understanding is that the local doctors' surgeries do not have room for more patients. Locally there is often a wait of a couple of weeks or more to get a doctor's appointment. Have we enough room in local schools? And if we have, then the "school run" will add once again to the traffic and pollution.

5. Concern for the wildlife in this area. The plans as they stand will encroach so closely on Sidlings copse and college pond that they threaten its survival as an area of ecological importance. I find it shocking that Christchurch as the owners of the land, are willing to take the risk of destroying this nature reserve for the sake of pure greed. I am also concerned about the local badger sets. A set was destroyed when building Barton Park and many of the "unhomed" badgers were killed on the nearby roads whilst trying to get away. It is disgusting that this was done, but criminal if it is allowed to happen again in such close proximity. We have enough problems with the decimation of our natural wildlife in this area without willingly allowing further upheavals and death. What will happen to all the bridle paths and other public rights of way across the fields, that have been used by local people for hundreds of years?

6. The irony of having these properties built is that they will not be affordable by the average workers in Oxford. I gather that it is expected that many will be bought by commuters to London or investors from overseas. One wonders why they would want to make their homes so close to this estate.

In addition, there has been no consultation with those living closest to where the development would take place, i.e. Wick, Barton, Sandhills, Bayswater Farm.

If I, with no training, can see these problems, one wonders how the planners and landowners can so willingly and cavalierly overlook them. Will you please ensure that my comments/objections are included in the consultation for this plan.

Lynn Gardiner
[REDACTED]