

From: Tony Parsons [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 March 2019 09:29
To: Planning Policy Vale
Subject: Ref LPP2 Wootton and St Helens without - draft main modifications - removing Shippon from the Green Belt

Importance: High

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a Shippon resident whose house backs onto Dalton Barracks Airfield [REDACTED].

As you would expect anyone faced with this size of development (being planned at the back of their garden) would strongly object to it (wouldn't you?) there are many reasons why I feel it shouldn't go ahead, not just because of the affect it will have on us personally, but also on the village & it's community, the surroundings countryside & the wildlife contained within it.

I have listed below a number reasons why I feel Shippon shouldn't be removed from the green belt, and why the development shouldn't go ahead.

- When out travelling around our country in comparison you can see how Oxfordshire has taken more than its fair share of development in recent years, I find it is so sad when crossing the county boundary (from whichever direction) to see how much countryside has been lost to badly planned & indiscriminate development, whether it's around Abingdon, Didcot, Witney, Wantage or any of the smaller villages.
- Although Shippon is a small village without many of its own amenities (except for its church & Pub) this is not a problem as we are so close to Abingdon & Wootton. having a development of 1200 houses would completely overwhelm Shippon and would lose its character & identity completely, not to mention all the green space surrounding it.
- Even without all the uncertainties that Brexit brings at the moment, I'm not convinced that there is a need or even a demand for all the development that is going on in the county at the moment.
- Due to Global warming we are all now starting to experience the changes to our climate, the main causes of which can be attributed to over development around the world & here in the UK, by continually granting planning permission we are just adding to the problem and making things worse, wouldn't it be a refreshing change to have a council take its responsibilities seriously and take a U turn on some of its poorer planning decision making?
- Dalton barracks is a valuable green space that is good for the local environment & wildlife and in parallel used recreational by various local groups for their activities making it a very important unspoilt area for the surrounding community.

Whether anything I or anyone else have said will make any difference or persuade the district council to change their minds, I'm not so sure? However if the development still goes ahead I feel the planners should at least reconsider/alter their plans:-

- I feel the development should not be planned purely on commercial developers terms/reasons i.e. what is cheapest & easiest for them to achieve (e.g. as is the case with the new developments at Bicester, Wantage, Didcot, Witney etc) they should be planned on what's best for the community, the people who will have to live there & the existing communities that will have to live in close proximity to the development, therefore to comply with the planning policies the development should be sited further north & more central to the airfield, with the new amenities, shops, schools, doctors surgery etc at the heart of community, allowing any future development (if required) to grow, radiating out from the centre making the amenities easily accessible for everyone. Buildings should be in keeping with the local character, no more than two storey's high with areas of trees & shrubs to improve the environment & break up the skyline of massed roof tops!!!
- By planning the development as describe above this would allow all communities to keep their own identity, leaving open green spaces between each of them to use and enjoy equally.

- By leaving open green spaces around the outside of the development this would help to minimise the effect the development will have on the (what will be left of) local wildlife giving animals, birds etc green corridors to move freely between the various different habitats.
- From a infrastructure point of view it would allow more than one entrance & exit road out of the development giving the commuters the option of travelling either north or south, hopefully reducing some of the inevitable congestion from all the additional car journey's that the development will bring.
- To minimise the pressure on the existing transport infrastructure the development must only take place once all the infrastructure improvements (paths, cycleways & roads) have been put in place.

For all our sakes who live here I really hope the council will take note and see how passionate the local community feel about their home and that common sense will prevail before It's all too late.

I would be very grateful if you could confirm safe receipt of my representation to the draft main modification.

Kind Regards

Tony Parsons