

Ms Geraldine DM Brown

5 November 2020

Dear Councillor,

STRAIT13 – Land North of Bayswater Brook: Question 16

I am writing with reference to current proposals to develop the Bayswater Farm Field.

Along with most of the other residents in the vicinity of the proposed development, I have been living in Sandhills for several decades, peacefully appreciating the beautiful rural landscape, free from noise, disruption, traffic and disruption.

I am now therefore writing to oppose the planned development, due to the following reasons:

1. Sandhills was in fact Oxford's first Garden Estate and was carefully designed with its tree lined avenues leading to the rural landscape of the Bayswater Farm Field. All occupants within the vicinity have enjoyed, cherished and appreciated the local landscape for many years and the proposed development would destroy this.
2. Local residents, myself included have always been able to walk freely along the bridle paths and in the surrounding fields. This has especially been utilised and appreciated since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic where this outside space was an essential lifeline and escape from the enforced lockdown.
3. On countless occasions, I have taken visitors both young and old on beautiful walks in the local vicinity and the proposed development will no longer allow this.
4. As my job of a busy and often stressful nurse and key worker means that it is sometimes necessary for me to work either locally or in central London, it has always been particularly significant for me to have the field nearby for walks in order to enhance both my mental and physical well being. This is especially the case after a stressful day in hospital on the wards or in the operating theatres where I work as an anaesthetic nurse.

5. The proposed development is unsound, illegal and blatantly acts against the provisions contained in the National Policy Planning Framework, specifically in respect of 8b which relates to '*social objective*' and 8c which relates to '*environmental objective*,' With reference to both 8b and 8c, the development is in breach of the guidelines and falls short of complying with the policy framework.

Furthermore, it is evident that this development will hinder public rights of way, and access rather than enhance them. I am also extremely concerned about the environmental impact of the development due to the noise, dirt, dust and fumes which will inevitably be present with any construction project. As previously mentioned, I have lived in the Sandhills locality for numerous decades and moved there with the intention of remaining there throughout my retirement in a safe, calm and tranquil environment. I believe the proposed development is completely inappropriate for it's location and will have a disastrously negative impact on the physical and mental well-being and space of the Sandhills residents who have built a warm, safe and friendly community over many years. We truly cherish the social and cultural well being which we gain from living in the community and believe this would be broken and destroyed by the Bayswater Farm Field plans.

I look forward to hearing from you with confirmation that the proposed development to build on the Bayswater Farm Field will not be taking place.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Geraldine Brown