

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2020 18:55
To: _WEB_Local Plan
Subject: Objection to the proposed development at Wisloe Green

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to register my objection to the proposed development at Wisloe Green as part of the Stroud District Council draft local plan.

I do this for the following reasons:

The proposed development will link the villages which form Slimbridge Parish; Slimbridge, Cambridge and Gossington, with the village of Cam thus creating one massive urban development. This means that each of these individual villages will lose their small, rural identity and become part of a large sprawl of housing. By their own admission Stroud District Council have graded Slimbridge and Cambridge as Tier 3 and 4 areas respectively and their own recommendations are to prioritise Tier 1 and Tier 2 towns for development.

At present the traffic on the A38 makes it very difficult for residents to turn right onto the A38 and this increase in housing will make this virtually impossible in the future. The housing development at Box Road in Cam is already causing chaos to local residents and commuters who use the Cam and Dursley railway station, this additional housing will see this increase to dangerous proportions. It is unrealistic to believe that the new residents of the Wisloe Green development will walk or cycle to the train station, especially throughout the winter months.

I am extremely concerned about the lack of appropriate infrastructure which will be necessary to support this development. Whilst I appreciate why this site has been chosen in terms of transport links, being close to the A38, train station and motorway junctions there appears to be little thought or planning to the increase in traffic, parking issues, Secondary schooling, doctors, dentists, chemists etc

Residents of Slimbridge have for many, many years had to put up with poor drainage, flooding and sewage problems with Cambridge designated a High flood risk. The proposed development is a medium flood risk and with surface water draining into Slimbridge and Cambridge this can only exacerbate these problems. No amount of work by the developers is likely to surmount this issue.

I understand that the site will have cycle-ways, footpaths and green spaces. I would be interested to learn where the cycle-ways and footpaths will go and what they will link to, and how are the green spaces in any way going to counteract the huge conurbation in one of the most rural parts of an officially recognised Rural District.

I could go on and on with a never ending list of reasons as to why this site is unsuitable but having attended the recent drop in event and speaking to your representatives I get the distinct impression that this consultation is a mere paper exercise. Stroud District Council have already decided on their preferred sites and are fitting the evidence to suit these sites. The Council's Statement of Community Involvement says that the Council will inform, engage and consult people when considering planning applications but at no point does it say that it will actually listen to the residents who live in these communities and who have to live with the consequences of the Council's actions.

There are alternative and more suitable sites in the Stroud district; Hardwicke, Redlers site in Stroud, to name but two but these are on the whole smaller and therefore do not fit the "one size fits all" policy that Stroud District appear to have adopted. We vote for our councillors in the hope that they will take the "right" course for our district and our environment, not so that they will take the "easiest" course and lose sight of what they profess to stand for. I find the fact that a recent land survey carried out by the Council has downgraded the land at the Wisloe site to a Grade 3b from a Grade 2 to be proof of this.

Finally, if, as Stroud District Council claim, they are "committed to the environment and take responsibility for environmental improvement" why are they not listening to those who can see what a detrimental impact the size and positioning of this development will cause to these communities.

Regards

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.