

Mrs. C. Burrows



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23rd July 2020

Ref: Request to remove Policy SE2: M1 Junction 13 – Marston Gate

Dear Mr. Davie

I am writing to request the removal of Policy SE2: M1 Junction 13 – Marston Gate Expansion from the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan and the development to be kept west of the Bletchley-Bedford railway line, which will protect the Greensand Ridge and protect designated heritage assets.

My reasons for the request to remove this policy are as follows:

Impact on the Landscape

We cannot lose any more of our countryside, this is an important green belt area and the Greensand Ridge must be protected. Nothing would ever replace the little and precious landscape we have.

This is part of our heritage and it must be preserved before we cover every bit of green with concrete!

Given the size of buildings proposed, this will cause great harm to the landscape character and the area will become a visual eye sore.

There is sadly little consideration to the people living in these areas and the wildlife would be strongly affected too.

This proposed location is also far too close to many heritage sites such as All Saints Church and Segenhoe Manor.

Traffic Impact

Junction 13 is already impossible as it is, no improvements or remodelling of this junction will ever make it work.

The infrastructure doesn't work currently, so how will it cope with more traffic? The high congestion levels on the A507 as well as the M1 / A421 / A428 will be horrendous, the junction will become unbearable, will be a constant gridlock and will create more road traffic accidents.

Ridgmont will yet again be used as a rat run through the village and will become unsafe again.

Light Pollution Impact

The new current artificial lighting over the Amazon building is just unacceptable, we can now see the white glow from miles around. It is unnecessary and creates a real nuisance at night time for the locals and the wildlife.

Noise Pollution Impact

Our village has already been suffering for years from a huge amount of noise from the M1 so this proposal would again add more noise pollution.

Air Pollution Impact

There is no doubt that more air pollution created by more cars and lorries will have a big impact on people's health such as breathing problems, and this is already happening. This will add pressure to vital NHS resources. We have recently all welcome the reduction of air pollution during lockdown.

Pollution Impact

This will undoubtedly create more plastic and litter pollution. We already experience high volumes of litter around the existing Marston Gate site.

Warehouses

We really do not need any more Warehouses in this already congested area. And The expansion of Marston Gate site is just not viable.

The prominent position of these large warehouses are built in plain view and are a huge eyesore on the landscape. And why do the developers put these monstrosities on the edge of villages?

There are much better areas in mid-beds suitable for warehouses like existing brown fields sites.

We all know that these warehouses do not create jobs for local people, they are filled with sadly very low paid workers transported from other big towns, therefore increasing the number of vehicles locally and create more Co2 emissions.

In view of the uncertainty of our economic future with regards to Brexit as now sadly with Covid-19, we really need to re-address our priorities and values. More efforts should be concentrated around renewable energies and climate change.

The scale and the location of such project is very disturbing. This area is already very congested with Motorway, roads, warehouses, we simply cannot cope with anymore and we certainly cannot lose the little heritage we have left.

I am personally overwhelmed and consumed with fear over the future of this area and this country. I cannot stop questioning what the future holds for the next generation and the struggle our children and grandchildren will face.

We are slowly losing grip on the common sense to the benefit of concrete jungles and profit, and the level of destructions is just so distressing to see.

So I **strongly oppose** to this Marston Gate Expansion project and sincerely hope that all the negative impacts such as: Traffic Congestion & gridlock / Loss of Landscape / Impact on precious heritage / Loss of wildlife / More Co2 / Air Pollution / Light Pollution / Noise Pollution / Heath impact / Plastic & Litter / Road Rage / Crime / Additional police resources / Additional NHS resources will all outweigh another profit /consumerism concrete driven project.

Your Faithfully

Catherine Burrows

Ps: Could you please forward my letter to the inspector.