From:
Sent: 21 January 2020 18:51
To: __WEB_Local Plan
Subject: Regarding: Local Plan Review. Site References PS33, PS34, PS35 and PS36

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Regarding: Local Plan Review. Site references PS33, PS34, PS35, PS36 (Berkeley Cluster)

Dear Stroud District Council,

My name is: ______

I have been told that more than 5000 new homes will be built on fields in this area. I think this isn't a good idea because:

We should support the building of some additional houses, mainly on brownfield sites. Not the disproportionate number of houses in the Draft Plan, which will change the character of this area forever.

The landscape with its farming and estuarine ecosystems will be irrevocably damaged and lost for future generations.

We live on the floodplain of the largest river in the country. Flooding is a major issue in the area at present. There are photo's of people jet skiing in the fields due to the levels of floodwater and the roads and lanes are regularly submerged. Hard landscaping - concreting large areas of floodplains has led to major problems in other areas of the country and this has the potential to be far worse.

It was noted that during the planning application by Forest Green Rovers for a new stadium next to the M5 Motorway that Stroud District Councillors raised the issue of building on greenfield sites and that it should not be approved for that reason. Is this not a greenfield site? Why one set of arguments for one application and a totally opposing view for another? Stroud District Council itself has previously considered this area unsuitable for development - what has changed?

The current village infrastructure will not be able to cope with such a large scale development, The roads, which will not be developed are currently busy at peak times and would not cope with such increased vehicle numbers. This is because the development of the proposed rail links is not possible. The cost would be prohibitive and local lines are currently at capacity. Buses do not provide a viable alternative.

There is not enough local employment and therefore large numbers of people would be commuting north to Gloucester and Cheltenham or south to Bristol. Commuting in either direction is already problematic with queues at the motorway exits at peak times.

In conclusion, I object to this proposed development as I believe that it has been the 'easy option', ill considered and poorly researched. Drawn up by developers with maximum profit in mind and not the environmental impact that they are inflicting upon future generations. The past history of these companies shows that the plans will change once approved and the beautiful open spaces will disappear, as more houses are packed in.