

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 January 2020 22:47
To: _WEB_Local Plan
Subject: PS35 site proposal

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I would like to register my thoughts on the housing development plans, to which I strongly contest. **I most strongly object to the proposed PS35 site** but also PS34 and PS36. I live opposite the school (PS35) and cannot stress strongly enough how much I oppose this proposal to build here. I chose to live here for the peace and quiet and the nature of this tiny hamlet is precisely why I moved here. I do not want to live in a building site watching the natural habitat of wildlife destroyed to be replaced by faceless cheap housing that will not last and will deform the local area and natural landscape. I bought a house here to be one of a dozen or so in this locale, not amongst 100, it is unacceptable.

I work in a stressful environment in the media and moved here to the countryside explicitly for a better quality of life and to enhance my mental health. The air quality here is around 5 times cleaner than the centre of Bristol. I can walk out of my front door onto fields or the estuary or along the canal and marvel at the peace and unique rural landscape in which I can listen to estuary birdlife, horses, woodpeckers and buzzards or watch deer cross a field in front of me. I treasure this and it is the whole reason why I moved to this area specifically. 'Canal related tourism' worries me - the beauty of the canal area is partly due to the fact the area is quiet and unspoilt. The prospect of having a town the size of Dursley built around me is horrifying - the loss of natural habitat is careless and goes against the current collective responsibility for climate consideration and the environment. How on earth would Stroud reach a carbon neutral status by 2030 whilst destroying the natural landscape and making it into an ongoing building site for the next 25 years? Not to mention the inadequacies of the road system to enable the building trucks and development works that will flatten the way for thousands more unhappy and disillusioned commuters.

One thing I have noticed since moving here is the expansive areas of flooding - it seems absurd to plan developments alongside an estuary with the increased global warming and sea levels rising.

It breaks my heart that this beautifully peaceful natural and rural area may be utterly destroyed in order to tick boxes and build 'affordable housing'. New house builds, no matter how much contradictory fantasy blurb that may go into the brochures, are built quickly and cheaply, rendering them poorly sustainable in the longterm. The public need fewer new-builds and instead a more realistically priced house market so that young families can afford to live somewhere of their choice. Laws regarding rental units and landlords, or people owning more than one home, together with probate laws could be reassessed - I live in an area of around a dozen houses and 3 or 4 of them have sat empty for at least a year and a half so far.

In short, I would find the building up of my local area detrimental to this wonderful neighbourhood in terms of quality of life - noise and air pollution, destroy natural landscape and the natural wildlife, increase of traffic to an unprecedented effect, put children and animals at risk to exponentially increased volume and type of traffic, decrease the value of existing housing, upset the work / home balance due to increased commuting times, more risk of traffic accidents, and an unsustainable level of growth in an unnatural and manufactured way that if it is allowed to go ahead should merit some form of compensation for the existing community that has grown here naturally and peacefully by people that dearly love this unique rural land beside the estuary. I would prefer Option 4: an entirely new site found in order to house a wholly new complete development such as a new-town rather than smother small villages and hamlets to coagulate them altogether taking with it history, culture, character and heart.