



Local Plan Review
Planning Strategy Team
Stroud District Council
Ebley Mill
Stroud
GL5 4UB

Email: local.plan@stroud.gov.uk

16 January 2020

Dear Sir / Madam

Proposed Planning - Berkeley Cluster – PS36

I write with regard to the above proposal and object strongly to the building of this new village in this location.

A development as large as this would completely overpower Berkeley and permanently change the area and consent for such a development should be rejected.

The infrastructure into Berkeley and Sharpness is insufficient and inadequate and the roads cannot accommodate the traffic now therefore to increase this even slightly would be madness. Parking in the area is almost non-existent, when you go to the local shops now there is nowhere to park and there is nothing in the plan to accommodate the 10,000 cars that will be needed to transport the people that would move into the area.

There is no lighting on many of the roads currently and they are flooded, poorly surfaced and cannot safely accommodate the current traffic load, let alone an increase in vehicles of the scale needed to accommodate all of these new cars.

Public transport services are non-existent in our area, and the plan for additional services and the new bus route proposed through part of the area does not provide effective services into the neighbourhoods meaning residents travelling a long way to get to the bus route, people with small children or the elderly cannot be expected to walk so far to get a bus they want to be able to get into their car from their doorstep, parking for which has not been included.

A huge increase in the number of cars travelling on the A38, commuting into Bristol or Gloucester and other areas within the district, would cause further congestion on the already very busy M5 junctions, especially with the new houses being built in Thornbury, Falfield, Dursley and Charfield.

As a young man I would ask where the provision for jobs for all of the people moving here would come from, as I myself already have to travel to get work, so would most of the people which move to the new area, causing even more traffic on the roads as people commute and not bringing anything to the area to help the local community.

There is no provision of a new doctor's surgery, and the one in Berkeley is closing, where will all of these new people and the current residents go to see a GP?

Much of the site is in an area which floods, and as much as half of the area is currently flooded or seriously waterlogged, which could mean this area is under water permanently in the next few years.

Many people both local and tourists use the Severn Way for recreational purposes. It provides miles of walking and building here would take away many of these open spaces and have an impact wildlife. The area is home to many animals, for example, Badgers, Foxes and Deer which use the fields which will be destroyed by this development and otters live on the surrounding banks of the River Severn, proposed for diversion. Where will they go when this has been built?

The plan to retain small areas of wetlands and wildlife is insufficient and those that are there are natural and sustainable encompassing a wide range of wildlife. The new measures put in place will not compensate for the loss in natural habitat The whole thing will have a critical effect on wildlife which will take many years to recover.

I do not feel the development is beneficial to the people who live in the area, or well-constructed for its new residents. There is the risk of flooding, no parking, no jobs, GP, schools or transportation facilities, it seems a very unorganised idea and only the landlord and developer can benefit. I would urge you not to accept this application.

Yours faithfully

