

8 March 2018

Planning Policy Team
Brentwood Borough Council
Brentwood
CM15 8AY

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to register my objections to the inclusion of land at Honeypot Lane, Brentwood, on the preferred list of sites for housing development in the Local Development Plan which is currently being considered.

Honeypot Lane is a completely unsuitable location for the planned 200 homes plus a 40 bed care home and would destroy an important piece of protected Green Belt land, ripping apart the rural character of this part of Brentwood and destroying wildlife habitats

My reasons for objecting are as follows:

I have been a resident of [REDACTED] for 20 years and traffic issues in the locality have been a constant concern.

Access to the potential development site would have to be off Honeypot Lane or Weald Road and all these points suffer from considerable traffic problems as they are already used as rat-runs to local schools, London Road, the M25 and station etc.

The lower section is a country lane and has a narrow chicane section near the housing. This is already dangerous with vehicles frequently mounting the pavement to avoid giving way to oncoming vehicles. Honeypot Lane now has resident parking bays but there are still sections of double parking which makes it difficult for motorists to negotiate. There is only one narrow footpath for pedestrians.

Any development would mean years of major disruption such as noise, traffic congestions and pollution in all the surrounding roads with the heavy construction lorries and plant machinery.

In the longer term the additional traffic movements from the proposed development - potentially 2,000 a day if you take into account journeys for work, shopping school runs etc. All this would seriously exacerbate the existing congestion and hazards. It's not just private car movements that are my concern - hundreds of new homes mean hundreds of lorry and van movements from postal, online shopping, supermarkets etc. The roads simply could not cope and there are both health and safety risks with the resulting increase in traffic pollution.

There are chicane or "pinch points" on all other potential approach roads - i.e. Weald Road at High House, Weald Road near St Peter's Church, Park Road and surrounding roads, Western Road, Sandpit Lane etc. There would be a knock on effect for Ongar Road, Brentwood High Street. This proposal has wide issues for Brentwood Town Centre and South Weald.

The Homesteads Estate (Hill Road, Hillside Walk and Weald Road) are private roads for which the residents pay the upkeep. These roads already suffer from very heavy use by drivers who do not live on the estate. Any further development of housing in this locality would cause even more serious damage to the road surfaces as there would be a massive increase in rat-running traffic.

Traffic volume considerations aside, there is not the infrastructure to support the potential Honeypot Lane development. As well as highway infrastructure issues, there are not sufficient doctors' surgeries for more than 1,000 new residents.

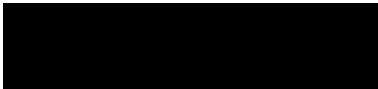
I attend Beechwood Surgery and it is already difficult to get a non-emergency appointment.

Schools are also at full capacity and St Peter's Primary is oversubscribed and cannot expand.

I object to this deeply flawed proposal as it will destroy the green belt. There is a great deal of wildlife on the land in question including bats etc. The green fields are part of a very precious green lung and allow uninterrupted views of South Weald and St Peter's Church. There are mature trees, hedgerows and a stream. It is an important source of drainage as the land slopes down from Hill Road. Flooding and drainage is already a problem on the land in question and development would exacerbate these issues for residents whose properties adjoin the land.

The Honeypot Lane site was previously rejected as it did not meet the Council's Spatial Strategy Metropolitan Green Belt Lane. The site is completely inappropriate for housing development and I would urge that it is removed from the list of preferred sites in the Draft Local Plan.

Yours faithfully

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