

SUMMARISED

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Dr Tom Durrant

Oxford

10th December 2018

Planning Policy Team
Oxford City Council

To whom it may concern,

Re: Draft Plan for Oxford 2016-2036 : Proposed Park Farm / Edgeway Road housing development

I write to object to the proposal to build new housing on Park Farm, at the end of Edgeway Road, Marston. While I appreciate the need for further housing in the city, and hope that suitable sites can be found, the Park Farm site is inappropriate for this purpose for a number of reasons, as detailed below.

1. The paths bordering this land serve considerable pedestrian traffic, and provide important connections to the city centre and the University, while also serving as rural walks. The paths are frequently busy with families with small children, nature lovers, dog walkers, runners, University staff, and many others.
2. The farm land and surrounding areas are important habitats for varied wildlife, which would be destroyed or disturbed as the result of a housing development.
3. A housing development would bring considerable traffic and congestion to the area, which would bring increased noise and disturbance, and a deterioration in air quality, to the detriment of the health of the aforementioned people and wildlife. The lane accessing this area from Edgeway Road also crosses a very busy cycle path, and increased vehicle traffic would cause disruption and pose risk to users.
4. The Park Farm and surrounding land is susceptible to flooding. On this point alone, this location would seem to be a very poor strategic choice for building upon, and any building would be likely to perpetuate the flooding of this and surrounding areas by reducing this land's capability as a floodplain.

If you'd like to discuss any of these points, please don't hesitate to contact me via the details on this letter.

With best wishes,

Tom Durrant

