

## Planning Comments

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 November 2019 17:01  
**To:** Planning Comments  
**Cc:** clerk@halsteadparish.org.uk  
**Subject:** #19/05000 Fort Halstead

Dear Sirs,

Please be advised that I object to the Fort Halstead development and regret the planning application.

1. This site at the top of the North Downs has only become available as a result of its use in World War 2. In normal times this site would not have been developed and would have remained Green Belt.
2. The development on this site must not impact on traffic in local villages, especially Knockholt and Halstead. During rush hour Dunton Green and Riverhead often have traffic queues into Sevenoaks. Knockholt, in particular, already suffers traffic congestion with many residents having to rely on street parking. Halstead and Knockholt villages should not be allowed to become a "rat-run" and access from Fort Halstead onto Star Hill would be a significant traffic problem, especially for Knockholt.
3. Local infrastructure is already overstretched. Lack of school places, especially senior schools. Difficulty in gaining doctor appointments, hospitals at capacity. Rush hour trains running at packed capacity and already lack of parking near stations. Lack of bus services and the location of this site at the top of Polhill and Star Hill ensures great difficulty in walking or bicycle access especially to Sevenoaks, also lack of pavements ensure it is too dangerous to consider access on foot.
4. Traffic congestion is already bad at all junctions in rush hours within the Sevenoaks area. Any increase in traffic is bad news, but such a large development could make the local road infrastructure network incapable of coping with the increase.
5. This development at the top of the North Downs will be a blot on the landscape and an eyesore for future generations and will put unreasonable strain on already stretched local services and infrastructure.
6. Knockholt and Halstead have striven hard to maintain their heritage as attractive Kentish villages. Sevenoaks District Council must use their best endeavours to assist their residents and not allow these villages to be ruined by over-development nearby.

Yours faithfully,  
Mrs. V. Whiting.  
Cooden, Knockholt Road, Halstead, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN14 7ER.