

Caversfield Parish Council response to the Dymocks Farm planning application.

These views are those of the Parish Council in objection to the plans.

If you wish to respond to these plans please do so in your own words and write individually and not as a group all signing a letter. Each letter received by Cherwell District Council counts and attention will be given to those that are not just a replica of everyone else's.

If you have any queries please contact Sue Lee – Parish Clerk –
sue@steeple.eclipse.co.uk 01869 347652.

1. The site has not been identified for housing development in the Cherwell Local Development Plan.
2. The development would almost double the size of Caversfield in terms of number of houses. Caversfield is a category 3 village and policy H15 states that new residential development in category 3 villages will be restricted to –
 - conversion of non-residential buildings in accordance with policy H21
 - a new dwelling when an essential need for agriculture or other existing undertaking can be established.

The parish council does not believe this outline application fits into either category.

3. Traffic: With the M40 to the south of Bicester, it is inappropriate to build 900 houses to the north of the town, as the extra traffic (approximately 1800 additional cars) will compound existing traffic congestion and rat-running.

The current road layout would not cope with this increase for the following reasons:-

- The roundabout on the A421 at RAF Bicester is already congested and leads to tailbacks to the Stratton Audley turning in peak periods.
 - When the roundabout on the A421 at RAF Bicester backs-up, there will be rat-running along the Fringford Road, Thompson Drive and Skimmingdish Lane, none of which are suitable for increased volumes of traffic.
 - The Fringford Road (wrongly marked as Southwold Lane on the application), is a small country lane with blind bends on it and existing problems with speeding traffic.
4. Many residents who purchased houses in Caversfield did so because of the absence of shops and other facilities and the absence of associated problems such as litter, noise and vandalism and wish the settlement to retain its rural identity. This has been confirmed by villagers at public meetings to discuss the village structure.

5. There are serious concerns over the sewage infrastructure which is private and belongs to Stratton Fields Management Ltd; there is no alternate sewage system adopted by the Council or Thames Water.

6. Dymocks Farm is located next to Bicester airfield which is an English Heritage conservation site and a development this size would obstruct the landscape and impact negatively on the conservation status.