

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Planning Policy](#)
Subject: Draft Local Plan 2040
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Public Consultation.

Dear Planning Team, please can you include my comments below in the consultation process

Many thanks
Geoff Butler

We have been made aware by our Parish Council of a preferred site for development identified at Velmore Farm off Templars Way in the Parish of Chilworth, within the Draft Local Plan.

We support the Parish Council view that the proposal will have an immense adverse impact on Valley Park and Knightwood Park residents. In the past, assurances were made that there would be no development west of Knightwood Road, but these were breached, and 4,500 additional homes built, and evidentially, insufficient attention paid to surface water drainage, with a view to the future.

The area already suffers from traffic gridlock at peak times, exacerbated with road closures / repairs.

Local health services are under pressure and difficult to access - Doctors, Dentists etc. These would become even more pressured.

Traffic pollution will increase, and some of us are Asthmatic or have other medical conditions affected by air quality

Only this year, in January, parts of Valley Park were flooded - Wicklow Drive near to Monks Book

was flooded completely across the road and above pavement height / depth, of at least 150m

stretch past Lambourne Square, and similarly for a 80m stretch of Shannon Way adjacent to Chepstow

Drive. The Industrial Estate at the Templars Way end of School Lane is repeatedly flooded right across

after only average rainfall, and the intersection with the School Lane roundabout across one carriageway.

These flooding problems will get worse if more land (of Clay subsoil) is developed.

This is a serious concern for residents, especially those at the bottom end of Rothsburys Drive,

Lambourne Square, and the Shannon Way-end of Wicklow, which are particularly low-lying

and close to Monks Brook. The predominance of Clay soil in the area makes this problem serious - Many of our gardens are like a bog in the winter months even without heavy rain. These problems will only get worse with climate change and warmer / wetter winters with

flooding and insurance concerns for current residents in the area.

Clearly, the current balancing ponds, and water management in Valley Park, is under stress,

and inadequate, putting local properties at risk of surface flooding, and making local roads impassable at times. Monks Brook is over-topping to an alarming extent during a wet spell of weather

Strategic green gap will be lost between Valley Park and North Baddesley, not just with the

current proposal, but with the encouragement of further creeping development.

Also important will be the loss of green space, bio-diversity and habitat.

Yours sincerely







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