From:
To:
Planning Policy

Subject: Development Upton Lane Nursling
Date: 26 March 2024 16:52:59

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## General Part A: Your Details

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The plan to build 80 houses on the field at the top of Upton Lane Nursling, and to build industrial units, after clearing the ancient woodland opposite, fills me with dismay.

Apart from the obvious – that being the huge increase of traffic trying to access Romsey road, which has increased a great deal already in recent years, and the already overloaded doctor's surgery and dental practice, not to mention the schools, it is hard to think of a more incongruous site for this development.

In the years I have lived in Nursling I have seen three huge housing developments, mostly using productive farmland. The infrastructure is already pushed to the limit. The schools may or may not cope with extra pupils, but the only nearby doctors surgery has already closed its books to new patients.

The green gap between Southampton and Nursling has disappeared, converted into ugly metal buildings which are an insult to the area – and they have not finished yet, despite my being assured in the early days that 'it would never happen, the green gap is too important'.

The field marked for the houses at the top of Upton Lane, is very productive land for growing crops, in fact a farmer who had a tenancy with Broadlands told me that 'his' land running parallel to the M271 had been

tried by three generations of his family to grow crops – and all failed. He rented the field proposed for the houses from Barker Mills, as it was such flat and fertile land.

The woodland marked for industrial units is ancient, and home to all kinds of flora and fauna.

The government is engaged in a drive to protect wildlife, and our farmers – even suggesting subsidies to farmers to encourage them to use more of their land to provide habitat for wildlife. How does paving over valuable growing land, and destroying ancient woodland, fit with this policy?

People have to live somewhere? Yes, of course they do, and Nursling and Rownhams has done more than their fair share of providing housing.

This latest proposal is a totally unacceptable step too far.