

#246

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Sunday, March 31, 2024 9:10:35 PM
Last Modified: Sunday, March 31, 2024 9:50:05 PM
Time Spent: 00:39:29
IP Address: [REDACTED]

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Q1

Title Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Other(please state)*

Dr

Q2

First Name*

Sudhanshu

Q3

Surname*

Patwardhan

Q4

Organisation*(If responding on behalf of an organisation)

not applicable

Q5

Email address *

[REDACTED]

Q6

Postal address*

[REDACTED]

Q7

Insert any general comments that do not relate to a specific paragraph number or policy in the general comments box below.*If you are suggesting a change is needed to the draft Local Plan or supporting document, it would be helpful if you could include suggested revised wording. If you are commenting on a document supporting the draft Local Plan (such as a topic paper, or the Sustainability Appraisal), please indicate so.

NO DEVELOPMENT AT VELMORE FARM PLEASE!

This submission is specifically regarding a strong opposition to the proposed Velmore Farm development. Here is why:

1. The Templars Way is already suffering from numerous and regular traffic jams, exacerbated by any closure of M3/M27.
2. There are road maintenance issues for the road that have not been addressed nor resolved by the council- e.g. flooding at multiple locations near the proposed development.
3. The local services are in a sorry state of affairs: the councils (Eastleigh Borough council and Test Valley Council) cannot pretend that they are not aware of this or they are doing enough. GP appointments, policing, road maintenance are all stretched to their limits- and the Test Valley Council is proposing to further burden these with another additional 1000+ homes. It is obvious that the Test Valley planners are either not working collaboratively with the Eastleigh Borough Council or not working at all.
4. The political reasons behind promoting such a development in Chandlers Ford and not in other lesser developed parts of the Test Valley Council catchment area will need to be looked into and may be subject to challenge in court and investigations. Particularly obvious is the sparing of Romsey and nearby areas from such a massive scale development. NB: Romsey's South of Ganger farm development is much smaller, already happening, and the 340 homes being added by 2030 are part of existing plans; so that does not count.
5. With this proposed development, Chandlers Ford will effectively have an additional 2000 or even more residents, and a further urbanisation of an area that cannot sustain any more. The Velmore farms along with the Hut wood in the Southampton-Eastleigh Local Gap areas offer a very much needed reprieve from rampant urbanisation that has spilled over relentlessly from Southampton to the outskirts over the past 4 decades.

I oppose your proposed plans for the Velmore Farm development.

Q8

Insert any specific comments in the general comments box below, indicating which paragraph, policy or matter your comments relate to where possible.*If you are suggesting a change is needed to the draft Local Plan or supporting document, it would be helpful if you could include suggested revised wording.

There are specific aspects of the documents generated by Test Valley Council in support of the proposed Velmore Farm Development that are questionable or in some cases inaccurate:

1. The Health Impact Assessment makes the Velmore Farm development (Appendix 1, page 21) look like a healthier option to our current lives in the area. That is shocking and blatantly false. GP services are desperately inadequate, there is a huge litter problem due to ASDA/McDonalds in the vicinity that the Council has not done much about, there is already a lot of noise pollution due to the various motorways criss crossing- the 6-7 years of proposed construction work and additional permanent traffic will make living here miserable and net negative for mental and physical health.
2. Templar's Way is already poorly coping with the current traffic on normal days. Any development in Velmore Farms will make travel times impractical and dramatically reduce quality of life for current residents.
3. The Southampton Eastleigh Local Gap (page 55-56, Local Gaps report) is written about as if it allows development in the northern most part of the Gap i.e. the Velmore Farm land. It is unfortunate that the Council has chosen the report to be led by a decision rather than the other way round. The Velmore Farm area offers an important buffer between Templars Way and the woods of Hutwood and Chilworth area. Building any number of buildings will put houses right up to the edge of the woods, and deprive the area of green pasturelands.

The Council needs to reconsider its biased and pre-decided approach to the proposed project: there are significant health, traffic, and quality of life issues that need to be addressed for current residents before the council welcomes new residents with new builds. A very strong NO to the proposed Velmore Farm Development.
