

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Planning Policy](#)  
**Subject:** Local Plan 2040  
**Date:** 13 May 2024 18:28:54

---

**Caution:** This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Re.: Development at Velmore Farm

I realise this is beyond the dates of the consultation but I have only just seen the Important Information notice and I cannot just resign myself to it as you have phrased it perfectly to elicit excited responses from all the local NIMBYs.

Firstly, thank goodness there will be more homes here. Have you tried looking to rent or buy locally? It is expensive, options are limited, landlords are, consequently, entitled and unreasonably demanding yet do not perform the upkeep and maintenance that you would expect of your own homes. I have had to look further afield which in turn means longer commutes and increased driving as I increasingly need to be available for my elderly parents.

Secondly, you immediately highlight the problem of "up to 2000 more vehicles" on Templars Way. Have you considered expanding the public transport offer so that fewer people feel compelled to drive? And extending the cycling infrastructure so that drivers are not held up by cyclists and cyclists can travel more safely? The current bus provision around Valley Park and Knightwood is woeful, falling well short of any common-sense definition of a "service". The 8am caravans of traffic to Winchester and Romsey are testament to this. A genuine service would run when people need it, including outside standard office hours so those that work reduced hours (e.g. due to family commitments) can still use it, and late enough to provide flexibility so that people can guarantee a return journey (people often drive during a day because they know they will need the car to get home again when buses stop running so early).

Thirdly, when you highlight the problem of flooding of local highways, how will this be any different to currently when I notice you've simply given up collecting in the flood warning signs? They are now a permanent feature of the roadside rather than there being any visible attempt to clear the drains. If you're worried about traffic flow, start here.

Fourthly, the loss of green space you refer to will go unnoticed by those of us without access to it, i.e. all bar the landowners. It is your responsibility to demand that developers include green spaces and water/food control features, and ensure they comply. Make sure there are pedestrian and cycle paths away from the roads and that these paths actually reach key infrastructure destinations. Expand the local rights of way network. Insist that roads and tracks remain open and are not gated off. At the moment, despite this being a very green area, I can hardly access it beyond driving through it. Biodiversity needn't be lost if you actively push to preserve it.

Yes, local services will be affected. But don't just shrug and say "it's not my fault, I can't help it". What are you actually going to do in response? Plan and respond accordingly - don't just pass the buck or revel in a new scapegoat.

Yours faithfully

Kathryn Dalby