
From: Neal and Jane Pike
Sent: 29/07/2020 15:31:44
To: Planapps
Subject: Planning application 20/01238/OUTMAJ. Outline planning permission for up to 1000 homes, Sandleford Park, Newtown Road, Newbury.

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Dear Niko Grigoropoulos

Thank you for sending the above planning application. The Ramblers Association wish to submit the following comments.

The West Berks planning committee must be aware of the importance of the countryside in the proposed site area and that once it has gone it can never be replaced.

The applicants are aware of the existence of a Right of way across the site and the impact it will have on this very pleasant route. With this in mind if West Berks council are minded to approve this application the footpath must retain as much of its rural character as possible.

If the applicants are serious about enhancing the Rights of way network then there is huge potential for doing so particularly in today's environment where we being encouraged to take up walking and cycling.

To the East of the site is Greenham Common with its footpath network. Greenham Footpath 9 which crosses the proposed site exits onto the A339 opposite St Gabriel school. At this point a pedestrian controlled crossing should be installed to enable safe passage across the road. From here the pavement should be improved until Greenham Footpath 10 heading North is reached thus giving access to Greenham Common.

A footpath link should also be provided to access the network in Hampshire. This could easily be achieved by using planning gain and compensation to landowners. There appears to be a dead end path North of Oakleaze Farm in Hampshire and this is where a connection, with determination could be made.

Yours sincerely,
Neal Pike,
West Berks group of the Ramblers Association,
Footpath secretary.