

LAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL



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David Buckley
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1 July 2019

by post and email to david.buckley@milton-keynes.gov.uk

Dear Mr Buckley

Application no: 19/01378/OUT

Proposal: Outline planning application for 95 dwellings, including public open space, landscaping, a sustainable drainage system, children's play area and a vehicular access point from Olney Road. The application is made in outline, with all matters reserved except for access.

At: Land East of Olney Road, Lavendon

Further to the above application, Lavendon Parish Council writes to **OBJECT** to the proposal.

As you know, Lavendon has been subjected to numerous planning application approvals in a very short time. You will also know that at Lavendon Parish Council we are not serial objectors and have often supported sustainable growth.

In 2017, application number 17/02383/ OUT for 95 houses was approved on appeal after the application had been refused by Milton Keynes Council on the grounds such as "the location was not appropriate for development", "it was not a key settlement", "it was an intrusive form of development in open countryside", "it detracted from the rural character and it was contrary to the environmental aims and objectives of the NPPF" and "the harm caused would outweigh any benefits". Nothing has changed in the village, and in fact, things are getting worse due to the overturn of Councils decision by appeal of that application.

That development alone increases the size of the village by 15%, it has not yet started and already we are being faced with yet another application of the same size, which is totally at odds with the NPPF, Plan:MK and the emerging Lavendon Neighbourhood Plan, in which there is already an allowance for growth despite developments which have already been approved.

The percentage growth in housing being expected of this village is 39% from just 3 years ago to where we are today. This is entirely unreasonable and unsustainable in a village the size of Lavendon, particularly with the distinct lack of infrastructure in the locale, such as medical cover, schooling and public transport.

With reference to the Consultation Review by Gladman Land:

The company circulated a leaflet to “some” residents in Lavendon, which resulted in a meeting of residents and many responses to Gladman. The strength of feeling in the village is not to be underestimated and also the feeling, in the response from the company, is that they weren’t really consulting at all. We have been surprised also that Gladman don’t feel that it’s important to hold a meeting within the village as part of their “consultation”.

A few points to note from their consultation review are...

- The transport assessment could not possibly have taken into consideration the first application of 95 houses, which are yet to be built almost next door to this proposed site.
- Under miscellaneous; in the responses it initially states that “Lavendon is a sustainable development as accepted in a recent appeal” (referring to the first 95) but later states that this approved application is “not the subject of this application”
- At the time of the consultation responses the Lavendon Neighbourhood Plan hadn’t been submitted for examination but it should be noted that we are in the consultation stage (section 16)

These are just a few but in general there appears to be a total disregard of the legitimate concerns of villagers.

In summary, this application is aimed at adding housing in open countryside, in an area which is significantly lacking in infrastructure and is opposed to by the vast majority of residents. It also follows on from an application which was only granted on appeal after being soundly rejected by MK council, and we would ask you to reject this application in the same manner.

Yours sincerely

Jane Brushwood
Lavendon Parish Clerk