

[REDACTED]

Sent: 17 March 2026 20:18
To: Planning
Subject: Objection DC/26/0266

Categories: Comments Received

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing as a resident of Thakeham to register my strong objection to planning application DC/26/0266 concerning the proposed development at the Mushroom Farm site.

This proposal represents a clear and unacceptable case of overdevelopment in a small rural village that simply does not have the infrastructure to support it. The scale of the scheme—150 houses initially, with potential expansion to around 600—demonstrates a speculative, profit-driven approach rather than one grounded in the needs or wellbeing of the existing community.

Firstly, the development appears to conflict with the Thakeham Neighbourhood Plan, which carries legal weight. Ignoring this framework undermines local democratic input and planning integrity.

Secondly, local infrastructure is already under significant strain. Roads, schools, and healthcare services are insufficient for current demand. A development of this magnitude would place unsustainable pressure on these services, particularly given the near-total reliance on car travel and the already dangerous access routes via the North and South cuttings.

Thirdly, the cumulative impact of ongoing and approved developments in the area cannot be ignored. With several sites already approved, this proposal would dramatically increase housing numbers in a way that is disproportionate and harmful to the character and function of the village.

Furthermore, there is a serious ecological concern. The site has the potential to support wildlife, including protected and endangered bird species. Developing this land would result in irreversible environmental damage, contradicting national and local commitments to biodiversity protection. Are you not aware that we live in a drought area, we have no water in West Sussex, you cannot develop any more on this land.

Finally, there is no clear, legally binding commitment regarding the future use of any remaining land. This creates a justified concern that further development could follow, compounding the negative impacts outlined above.

In summary, this application is unsustainable, poorly justified, and not in the best interests of Thakeham or its residents. I urge the council to reject this proposal in its entirety.

Please confirm you have acknowledged this objection.

Yours faithfully, [REDACTED] DEEVONA, HIGH BAR LANE, THAKEHAM, WEST SUSSEX , RH203EH