

6 Meadow Close
Billingshurst
RH149FU
6th February 2026

Ms Alice Johnson
Planning Department
Horsham District Council Park North
North Street
Horsham
RH12 1RL

Your Reference: DC/25/2057 - Land North of Little Slaughterford Farm, Chapel Road, Barns Green.

Dear Ms Johnson,

I write in connection to the referenced planning application. I grew up in Barns Green, only 300 yards from the site, and I wish to strongly object to this development.

Destroying Natural Habitat

I am very concerned that the development submission details the removal of an old, well-established hedgerow that runs parallel to Chapel Road. This well-preserved hedgerow is home to flowers and wildlife and provides a boundary between the road and the field. The removal of this hedgerow destroys a natural habitat and the character in this part of the village.

Increased Traffic and Inadequate Parking

There is already an intermittent bus service in Barns Green. New residents on the proposed development would be forced to use their cars for everything they do to access local services and go to work. The substantive increase in car journeys will only add to the busy traffic density along Chapel Road which already includes many caravans on their way to Sumners Ponds. This will have a significant effect on pedestrian and vehicular safety, air quality and highway maintenance.

Parking is an issue now on Chapel Road and this will only get worse with this development. Many cars park along this road to visit the shop and pub adding pressure on traffic. The parking situation is totally ignored by the applicant and is deemed by myself to be totally inadequate.

At Odds with the Neighbourhood Plan

After a long consultation process including A Call for Sites, the parish residents recently voted on the Itchingfield Neighbourhood Plan. This development site was not submitted in that process. The residents voted to have two larger developments in the village: one at Sumners and one at the old school site in Itchingfield. Therefore this site is at odds with the neighbourhood plan and therefore against the wishes of residents expressed in a local democratic process.

Over Massing of a Rural Village

The development would represent a disproportionate increase in the number of dwellings in the parish, at a density which is out of alignment with neighbouring properties. Such a dramatic change represents over massing of a rural village.

Major Flooding Risk

Barns Green has been prone to flooding for many years - the village shop has been flooded on many occasions through streams of water flowing down Sandhills Lane. The home I grew up in (where my parents still live) in The Hordens has been subject to flooding for many years too, so I know what this desperate situation is like to live with. The increase in building density from the new development will only increase the risk of flooding as a result of run-off, inadequate drainage infrastructure and climate change.

It is for all these reasons that Horsham District Council should reject this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

