

Dickens' Country Protection Society



Founder Member:

Dr. Colin Smith, MA., BM BCh., MSc., DCH., FRCGP.

Chairman :

Mr R Theobald
'Greenfield'
21 Warren View
Shorne, Gravesend
Kent. DA12 3EJ
Tel: 01474 823674

Hon. Secretary :

Mrs P A Lippiatt
135 Heath Lane
Dartford
Kent
DA1 2TW
Tel: 07968 279761

Gravesham Borough Council
Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
DA12 1AU

24th November 2025

Dear Mrs Webster

Re Land Adjacent To (south of) Longfield Road Meopham Gravesend DA13 0EW
Outline application for the erection of up to 120 residential dwellings, public open space and associated works. Approval is sought for the principal means of vehicular access from Longfield Road and all other matters are reserved.
Planning application GR/2025/0993

Thank you for your letter of 12th November 2025 concerning the above. The Society wishes to register an objection to the application on the following grounds:

- (a) The site is in an area where Green Belt policies apply, where new residential development would not normally be permitted. No special circumstances have been put forward which would warrant overriding Green Belt policy. The development proposed would have a serious impact on the openness of the Green Belt.
- (b) The site is indicated on the (Interim) Agricultural Land Classification Map as Grade II. National Policy is that land which is identified as grades 1, 2 and 3A should be safeguarded from development and a sequential approach should be adopted in identifying for development.
- (c) It is stated in government policy that development should be sustainable. In the Society's view, constructing housing on high grade agricultural land cannot be considered sustainable.
- (d) There is evidence to suggest that development on this scale may be difficult to service. It should not proceed if it would result in compromising the services of existing residents in the area. At least one statutory undertaker has indicated that there is insufficient capacity to service additional development. This may indicate that the development was premature.