

Comments summary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Application comments have been made. A summary of the comments is provided below.

Comments were submitted at 09/12/2025 8:28 PM from [REDACTED]

Application Summary

Address:	Land Adjacent To Longfield Road Meopham Gravesend Kent DA13 0EW
Proposal:	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.
Case Officer:	Mrs Alison Webster

[Click for further information](#)

Customer Details

Name:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]
Address:	[REDACTED]

Comments Details

Commenter Type:	Member of the Public
Stance:	Customer objects to the Planning Application

Reasons for comment:

Comments:	<p>Meopham has a long history as a country village and farming community. It is known as having been the longest village in England. This development will negatively impact the character of the village turning it from a relatively small rural village to a small town.</p> <p>I strongly object to the development of this site for 120 houses on the grounds that this is prime agricultural land which has been farmed consistently to date and is sited on green belt which has not been released from the Greenbelt boundary. Farming is the cornerstone of Meopham village with several farming families who own and rent the land they use. This development will not only remove this land from their guardianship and thus severely affect their livelihood but it also further contributes to the impoverishment of the food supply in the country. It is paramount that, as the population grows, we are able to feed the people. Furthermore, the essence of Meopham is that it is a rural environment, surrounded by green belt which must be protected in order to ensure eco diversity and the integrity of the village. People travel to Meopham to escape the bustle of city living and breathe clean air; it should not become a small town when there are adequate brown field sites in towns to meet housing demand and to make life easier for developers.</p> <p>This development would be adjacent to an already over-congested road, Longfield Road, where vehicles belonging to the householders along the highway or people using the shops are already parking each side. Increasing the traffic along this stretch would only add to that congestion, particularly during school start and end times. Moreover, increasing the number of vehicles where there is</p>
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reduced visibility near two schools is dangerous. The A227 is used as a car park at both the Senior and Junior school drop off times and this will only get worse with the introduction of a further 120 families. Further towards Longfield there is a very narrow bridge crossing the railway line. Service vehicles and HGVs have already hit this several times. An increase in traffic will make this worse. When combined with the other 2 proposed developments in Meopham alone there could be another 1200 cars coming through the village.

The development is also planned near a parade of shops where there is limited parking. Despite double yellow lines, people are forced to park along the A227 to use the shops which reduces visibility along what is already a very busy road.

This makes exiting and entering Longfield Road by vehicle a gamble. There have been several accidents at this point in the road and this development has the potential to increase the number of users at this junction by 240 cars, as well as delivery and service vehicles. With the building of the Lower Thames Crossing, the traffic on the A227 is already set to increase. Past experience should demonstrate that when there is an accident or roadworks along any point of this road, there are long tailbacks which cannot be avoided because alternative routes divert road users through single track country lanes, causing further congestion. When there are problems on the A2 or M20, Meopham is used as an alternative route by cars and lorries despite the narrow road and speed limits, which are frequently ignored. The A227 cannot take any more!

Facilities in the village and local area are already stretched beyond capacity. It is almost impossible to park at the parade of shops adjacent to Longfield Road and it is worse nearer the station. One cannot get a GP appointment - mainly due to the lack of medical professionals - and the local hospital is already unable to cope with the number of people in the area. If you are lucky enough to get an appointment, you have to arrive 2 hours ahead of schedule to get a parking space. The trains are overcrowded. At peak times, commuters stand rather than find a seat during peak times and parking at both Meopham and Sole Street stations is severely limited. In general, the public transport is unreliable. There is an infrequent bus service and trains are often cancelled or delayed, particularly in bad weather. These issues will not and cannot be improved by the developers. Overall, the negative impact of this development needs to be considered along with the three other proposed developments in the village and that at Blackthorn Farm. Over 700 new homes will increase the size of the village by over one third. This is an unacceptable over development of a rural village with a lack of supporting infrastructure. Despite assurances from developers that they will build a school and doctor's surgery, they still need to be staffed and this, they cannot guarantee.

Kind regards