

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Objection to Proposed Development of 100 Houses at Blackthorn A227**

I am writing to formally object to the proposed planning application for the development of 100 houses on the land known as Blackthorn along the A227.

My concerns relate primarily to the lack of adequate infrastructure to support a development of this scale. The A227 is already under significant pressure from existing traffic, including large lorries. It also serves as a rat run between the A2 and A20/M20 whenever congestion occurs on either motorway, which happens frequently. The addition of traffic from 100 new homes would only worsen this already severe situation.

The road is further burdened by the presence of three schools, creating dangers for children and parents. Cars frequently race through Meopham village, making the area unsafe. This danger is not hypothetical. My own son, who attended Meopham Secondary School, was once struck by a car coming too fast along this road in poor lighting conditions. Fortunately, the vehicle only grazed the heel of his shoe, but the incident highlights just how unsafe this stretch of road already is for schoolchildren and pedestrians. Any increase in traffic will make these risks even greater.

In addition, the A227 is prone to sinkholes, which have appeared a few times over the years, causing gridlock on the surrounding country lanes, which are poor equipped to cater for such heavy traffic, and making the road network even less resilient.

There are also concerns about the lack of employment opportunities locally. This is a rural area with very few jobs available, meaning residents of any new housing development would almost certainly need to travel elsewhere for work. Public transport provision is extremely poor, and the nearest train station is not within walking distance. In practice, this means that each household would likely require at least two cars. Where adult children live with their parents, which is getting increasingly common, this number could rise further, adding to congestion, pollution, and parking pressures.

For all these reasons, I believe the proposed development is wholly unsuitable for this location and will place an unsustainable burden on local infrastructure, transport, and community safety.

I therefore respectfully urge the council to reject this application.

