

20260696 | Change of use of the existing livestock building to create x5 light industrial (Use Class Eg(iii)) / storage (Use Class B8) units with x1 agricultural unit and installation of roof-mounted solar panels, along with the conversion of an existing agricultural unit in a building to the west of the site to a workshop (Use Class E).

Dear Sir/Madam



I object to the above planning application for the following reasons.

Queens Farm Road is an entirely inappropriate location for industrial/commercial activities. If approved, this application will create another "mini" Apex Business Park in a totally unsuitable location.

If approved, this proposal will inevitably and by design generate increased traffic, including vans and HGVs, on unsuitable roads such as Queens Farm Road (a conservation area), Lower Road, Lower Higham Road, etc, adversely impacting pedestrian and highway safety.

Shorne Parish Council's Lorry Watch scheme receives a significant number of reports from residents concerning overweight vehicles illegally using Green Farm Lane. Those reported are just a fraction of the actual number of overweight vehicles which disregard the 7.5 tonne weight restriction in Green Farm Lane. A Lorry Watch Notice is sent to each and every offending vehicle operator identified.

It is clear from the reports and responses received that most of the overweight vehicles which illegally use Green Farm Lane are accessing premises in Queens Farm Road. This includes industrial units in Queens Farm as well as Apex Business Park. An increase in traffic (particularly large vehicles up to and in excess of 7.5 tonnes) will have an adverse impact on the quality of life and the enjoyment of the homes of residents in Green Farm Lane, as well as Queens Farm Road and Lower Road. This will also inevitably have an adverse affect on pedestrian and highway safety in Green Farm Lane.

Planning conditions which set out "approved routes" and/or limit the number of vehicle movements have been demonstrated and proven to be totally ineffective, as the approved routes and vehicle movements are not monitored or enforced by the planning authority.

Traffic Regulation Orders are totally ineffective as the Police do not enforce TROs.

Whatever the good words or intentions of the applicant regarding vehicle movements, the future tenants/occupiers of the industrial units will have absolutely no control or influence over their suppliers of goods and materials or their customers.

It is disappointing that this application would result in the loss of livestock accommodation on this long-established agricultural land. The accommodation is currently used to house cattle. The Planning Authority should establish why this will no longer be considered necessary when it is clearly needed at present.

I hope that Gravesham Planning will refuse consent for this unnecessary and detrimental change of use.

Yours faithfully

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