

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8th January 2024

Subject: Objection to Proposed Housing Development Application
reference number S62A/2023/0028 Land to west of Chelmsford Road,
Hartford End, Felsted, Chelmsford

To: Section 62a@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
C.c [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to express our strong objection to the proposed housing development surrounding our property to the South West and South East boundaries, specifically regarding the construction of 50 houses on green belt agricultural land. As residents directly affected by this proposal, we have serious concerns about the project's impact on the community and the environment.

When the initial discussions with the developer took place, assurances were made to the residents of the Hartford End hamlet, that this specific green belt land would remain undeveloped in perpetuity. However, the current Application plan, outlines a mix of dwellings, including social housing and privately owned houses, which fundamentally contradicts the earlier commitments made.

This proposed development in the small hamlet of Hartford End directly infringes upon the established planning policies designed to protect green belt land and maintain the character of our countryside. This project not only disrupts the visual appeal and natural beauty of the surroundings but also alters the density and character of the neighbourhood, adversely affecting its charm and tranquillity. In fact, nearby Felsted village, already struggles with sufficient state primary school places and these new properties and many recent additions in the area will have a serious impact.

The proposal, including a new bus stop on Chelmsford Road has enormous risk to life and limb, as it is situated between two 'blind' bends. Traffic is not often subdued by the 40 mph legal requirement and members of the public using this bus service will be endangered even if a new bus stop layby is built. This is a road traffic/pedestrian accident disaster waiting to happen. Most existing residents have installed mirrors to enable safe egress from their homes.

The area suffers from many natural springs, and the effect of many loads of soil removed from the neighbouring flood plain in order to protect the 26 residences built by this developer in 2017, has already had an adverse impact as the removed clay-based soil was transferred to this proposed site and significantly raised the ground level causing excess ground water to be a continual problem to the Ridley Green (old Brewery site) residents.

Of particular concern is the adverse effect this development will have on our property, The Brewers House. Although it is not listed, it is a premium period, prominent home of physical stature. The Parish Council has in previous, less significant planning applications maintained that our house is part of the local history heritage of Ridleys Brewery and should remain as such. The construction of these houses will obstruct our view of the natural valley, thereby diminishing the enjoyment of our property and likely reducing its resale value. On that point we would like to respectfully propose a visit from your esteemed team, despite the invoking of a S62A category.

We vigorously urge the Planning Inspectorate to reject this proposal in line with the existing planning policies and community interests. We implore you to see for yourselves this area and the incongruity of this application so to preserve the character of our neighbourhood for the well-being and satisfaction of all residents. We sincerely invite Inspectors to visit our home briefly to fully evaluate, at first hand, this completely inappropriate Application

Thank you for your urgent attention to this matter. We look forward to a thorough review and a decision that upholds the integrity of our community.

Yours sincerely,

Pamela and Michael Crouch

