



Mr Wayne Campbell  
Cherwell District Council  
Planning Department  
Bodicote House  
Bodicote  
OX15 4AA

BY EMAIL

31 March 2021

Dear Mr Campbell,

I am writing with reference to planning application: **21/00500/OUT: Erection of 43 New Homes on Land North of Railway House, Station Road, Hook Norton.**

I understand that a previous application for the construction of 48 houses on this site was refused by the Cherwell District Council Planning Committee in 2015 (Reference: 14/01738/OUT). At the time, the main grounds for refusal observed that the development would extend beyond the existing built up limits of the village and would be intrusive from a visual perspective to the immediate locality and currently open countryside.

Since the submission of the recent planning application, I have been contacted by a number of constituents who have expressed concerns that the current application neither addresses nor resolves the Planning Committee's original objections. Despite proposing to build five fewer houses, the site is in the same greenfield location as before. The development would still result in a loss of productive arable land and the surrounding vegetation. The change of levels necessary for access would be visually intrusive to current residents, and the position of the site in general would make such a development disruptive to the local landscape, notably the rising land to the north which includes Council Hill.

Hook Norton has seen a number of substantial housing developments in recent years. I know residents feel strongly that the village has already met its requirements to provide housing under Cherwell's Local Plan. Recent developments have also raised issues regarding access to local services and the provision of utilities. I understand that both the village primary school and nearest secondary school are over-subscribed. I have also been made aware by residents that the increased demand on the electricity, water and sewage infrastructure has pushed these systems to capacity and beyond in recent times. There is a similar situation with broadband provision and mobile telephone service.

I trust that you will consider my constituents' concerns fully when assessing this application.

Yours sincerely,

**Victoria Prentis MP**

**Westminster Office**

House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA  
Tel: 020 7219 8756

**Constituency Office**

Orchard House  
Hopcraft Lane  
Deddington OX15 0TD  
Tel: 01869 233 685

**Online**

[victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:victoria.prentis.mp@parliament.uk)  
[www.victoriaprentis.com](http://www.victoriaprentis.com)  
[@victoriaprentis](https://www.facebook.com/victoriaprentis)