

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 May 2019 16:29
To: Otterpool Applications
Subject: Otterpool Park Garden Town

Otterpool Park Garden Town

Ref: Y19/0257/FH

25th May 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

With reference to the proposed Otterpool Park Garden Town I wish to register my objections for the following reasons.

Although this development has the words Park and Garden in its title these are simply words which I believe are there to disguise the true facts. If this development goes ahead an area up to two miles in length which is at present an area of outstanding natural beauty and historic importance will be covered in concrete and inappropriate buildings. There is no way that this could be called a park or a garden, Otterpool Town will not add to the landscape but instead will be visible for miles around destroying not only the beauty of the landscape but also the natural habitat of many species of wildlife and plant life. It will also cause unacceptable levels of light pollution and damage the general wellbeing of all who live in the area.

Another reason for concern which is rarely talked about is that Defra have classified the South of England an 'Area of Serious Water Stress'. Below is an extract from the Southern Water web site.

The truth is that the South of England is one of the driest areas in the UK. It has been classed as an @Area of Serious Water Stress@ by Defra, the Government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
Climate change

Climate change is likely to see temperatures rise between 2°C and 3.5°C by 2080 with rainfall in the South East of England dropping by up to half. Droughts like we saw in 2004 – 6 are likely to be more common.

And as the population of the South East continues to rise, the amount of water we need to supply will increase even further, placing more pressure on local rivers and the already stressed natural environment.

Since this document was published further warnings have been published that we will running out of water within 25 years.

These facts must not be ignored however it seems that that the council are determined to do just that. Building on this scale in this area is simply creating a crisis waiting to happen when it could be avoided. I have been told by a planner that this was a problem they were aware of at least ten years ago and yet nothing has been done to avoid the inevitable.

I am also concerned about the legality of the project as the council bought the land saying it was for council farms but later admitting by doing this they were able to purchase it for a building site at a better price. What concerns me is that not only were we not consulted on the proposed development in the Ashford borough villages but also it seems unlikely that the council planners will be unbiased when looking at any proposal by the council for their own proposed development of land which they own.

I hope someone will listen to the concerns of the people who live in the area of the proposed Otterpool Town because if this goes ahead it will destroy life as we know it and cause untold stress and misery for all who live here.

Yours faithfully

Tim Bishopp

