

Agnieszka Rokita  
19 Windmill Way  
Greens Norton

Regarding planning application **S/2020/1376/MAO**, Outline application for up to 69 dwellings

I would like to object to this application based on the fact that neither County nor District Authorities made any preparations for the expansion of Greens Norton.

- **School places** - although local primary schools are operating under capacity, the only local secondary school with school transport has been oversubscribed for many years now and rumours to expand its capacity are not becoming a reality. That school, which is rated Outstanding by Ofsted, has been a major selling point for many properties in the area. Yet even now, before the expansion, students in Greens Norton are offered school places in the nearest alternative school which has been failing for years – it will be interesting to see that information in property brochures. There are also no alternative school transport provisions which would mean that families with both working parents, single parent families where the parent is working, or families where one of the parents can't drive will not be able to take their children to school, should they be refused a school place in the local school, and local authorities are not taking responsibility for this situation either by providing transport or by expanding the local secondary school capacity. Given that Towcester has seen a massive expansion in the last couple of years, and many more houses are planning to be built there, expanding Greens Norton further without addressing secondary school capacity first would be poor, disjointed planning as well as negligence to fulfil statutory services to the current and prospective residents.
- **Road capacity** – around 2016-2017 the A5/A43 roundabout saw major roadworks. Those roadworks, part of the "[Strategy for the A5](#)", failed to address the growing traffic volume coming down the A5 from the North towards Milton Keynes and Oxford. The result is that the A5 traffic is being funnelled through Duncote and Greens Norton towards Abthorpe roundabout. No immediate plans are in place to address this issue. During the same roadworks local authorities, which are part of the "Strategy for the A5" working group, did not feel it was important to address the safety and increased volume of traffic joining the roundabout from Greens Norton, therefore it can be safely assumed that the local authorities did not see it appropriate to expand housing in Greens Norton, otherwise appropriate provisions would have been made at that crucial infrastructure development point. Moreover, Greens Norton is en route for commuters from villages further north (Byfield, Woodford Halse) where other housing developments have been taking place as well, which resulted in increased traffic volume going through the village to join the A5 roundabout. Expanding Greens Norton would mean that the village is left to cope with

increased local traffic on top of the constant high volume transit traffic without any support to deal with the increase.

- **The state of local roads** – the roads in Greens Norton are crumbling: Bradden Road at the High Street junction is a collection of potholes, High Street is a collection of potholes, the road from Caswell/Duncote at the junction with Towcester Road hasn't got a single square foot of unbroken surface, creating a massive safety risk. Those roads require to be completely resurfaced and the problem should be addressed before even more demand is put on them. This problem will not go away and is the result of the point I raised above – the A5 traffic using Greens Norton as a shortcut.

The same factors apply to the proposed development near Mill Lane and I will submit those separately.