

Press release

98% of consulted residents object to Syngenta bulldozing Jealott's Hill

March 10, 2020 - The recent publication of the Bracknell Forest's consultations on its revised growth strategy has revealed that 98.4% of respondents are opposed to the proposed destruction by Syngenta of Jealott's Hill, a Green Belt designated area. In addition, 99% of the 2,867 comments by residents contained objections to the Jealott's Hill proposals. The numerous protests expressed in the consultation included fears for pedestrian safety, increased traffic and inadequate planning for already gridlocked roads, loss of countryside, and air and noise pollution.

The residents voiced their deep concerns over the plan's impact upon the current forms of infrastructure for vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and bridleways. Residents have noted there is inadequate information in the proposals to explain how the Council would ensure pedestrian safety and make road network and junction improvements.

It was also felt that there is a lack of thought by the Council on how they would manage additional traffic generated by construction vehicles and the 10,000 to 12,000 residents who would live in the 4,000 proposed new homes.

Specific traffic hotspots cited in the objections include: A3095 Maidenhead Rd, A330 Ascot Road, Wellers Lane, Osborne Lane, Westhatch Lane, Bishops Lane, Malt Hill Road, Warfield Street, Kingscroft Lane, Cock Lane, Church Road, Binfield Road/Forest Road junction, and Three Legged Cross.

Residents also feel that the plans do not constitute exceptional circumstances to allow the treasured Green Belt status to be rescinded. Residents fear the loss of the countryside, including the hedges and ditches that support wildlife. They are also very worried about the increase in air and noise pollution and the urbanisation of rural roads.

Patrick Kennedy of the Save Jealott's Hill Campaign Committee remarked: "We appreciate the hard work of the council planning staff in publishing the draft summaries of the main objections to the plan. Our elected Bracknell Forest Councillors should take note of the deep level of upset and objection that there is to their proposal for Jealott's Hill."