

Public Consultation, Draft Local Plan, East Carterton Proposed Development of 700 houses.

Dear Sir

Transport Issues

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the above plan. Increased traffic will occur wherever new housing is proposed. People will have to commute to Witney, or further afield which will only add to the already dire situation on the A40, especially for those commuting between Witney and Oxford. At present, in order to get to a 9am appointment in Oxford people in Carterton or Brize Norton have to allow 2 hours; the **7 mile stretch between Witney and Oxford is “stop/start” every weekday**. It is equally bad going west from Oxford between 3pm and 7 pm. The A420 to Swindon is also very slow. Traffic through the village of Brize Norton already queues in the mornings at the chicanes and around parked cars. The planners suggest that the east site has “excellent transport links”, but this is frankly **not true**. In fact, **transport links are appalling**. This is one of the main reasons why new businesses will not come into Carterton because the transport system is so bad- no nearby railway and extremely congested trunk roads. People living here will be forced to **travel to work**.

With regard to the public transport situation; it is similar for both west and east sites as the buses currently travel along Upavon Way and Monahan Way so it cannot be argued that the East is preferable in this respect. Buses could also be re-routed if needed. Although the buses run frequently to Witney, they are very slow to Oxford, taking an hour when the traffic is flowing and longer at other times.

It would make far more sense to **locate new housing where people want to live and near to where they work** and where the amenities are already in place, such as Witney. There is scope for more housing to the north of Witney and this is favoured by many as the plans could incorporate flood control measures to alleviate the problems on the Hailey Road. A new bridge over the Windrush would also help with the congestion problem in Witney.

Yours sincerely