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The Planning Inspectorate

COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

Appeal Reference: APP/C1435/W/23/3321978

DETAILS OF THE CASE

Appeal Reference	APP/C1435/W/23/3321978
Appeal By	GLEESON LAND AND JOHN ALISON LAND AND RESEARCH LTD
Site Address	Land at Downlands Farm Uckfield TN22 3PU Grid Ref Easting: 546619 Grid Ref Northing: 122026

SENDER DETAILS

Name	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- ☐ Appellant
- ☐ Agent
- ☑ Interested Party / Person
- ☐ Land Owner
- ☐ Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- ☐ Final Comments
- ☐ Proof of Evidence
- ☐ Statement
- ☐ Statement of Common Ground
- ☑ Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- ☐ Other

YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE

As a local the area of and around Downlands Farm and Lake Wood are areas that I have known and walked in over the years. The rural landscape and open green space to the north of Uckfield are much valued and must be preserved not vandalised by development. Anyone living nearby already knows how the overdevelopment of the area has lead to traffic at a standstill and local B roads used by vehicles they are not designed to cope with. Any development at Downlands Farm will only exacerbate this further.

If I can see that the Woodland Trust and Sussex Wildlife Trust 's objections based on the international importance of the ancient woodland landscape and wildlife corridors are worth saving then surely a Planning Inspector can too. Habitat for 100+ species of birds, 14 species of dragonfly and over 150 butterflies and moths. Home to adders, grass snakes, hazel dormice and bats such as the scarce Barbastelle and many more.

There is also the fact that the site was part of the Streatfeild Estate and therefore part of local history.

The fact is the local infrastructure cannot even cope at the moment with all of the new developments around the Uckfield area. If yet another huge development is built on Downlands Farm where will the new residents go for work (presumably queue in their cars on the bypass to go north and pollute the Ashdown Forest as they go. Everyone knows that the Uckfield Railway line is the worst in England (I have been a commuter on it), there is not enough school places for children in the area, not enough dentists, GP's or employment opportunities locally. Adding a further 424 homes at Downlands Farm is just about developer greed and nothing to do with need. If the planning inspector approves this development despite all of the evidence provided by Wealden District Council, Uckfield Town Council, other parish councils, the Woodland Trust, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Downlands Action Group, Dr Martyn Stenning and Vivienne Blandford and all the others I hope that they hang their head in shame.