

Shropshire Council
Planning Policy & Strategy Team
Shirehall
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Shropshire SY2 6ND

My address:

Local Plan Review – Preferred Sites Consultation

Snatchfield Farm, Snatchers Lane, Church Stretton (CST021)

Date:

To whom it may concern

As a resident of Church Stretton I wish to object in the strongest possible terms to any housing development on the Snatchfield Farm site.

I have written in the box below some personal thoughts about this proposal but I would also like to register my support for the views of the local residents' group, among which are that:

- The site is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and outside the town's development boundary. Snatchfield is a valley that offers almost immediate access from the town to wild and semi-wild countryside. It is perhaps the most significant walking access route to the hills east of Church Stretton. It is used by countless rambling groups, Walking for Health groups, visitors, locals and significant numbers of young expedition group
- The land, is extremely wet and building here would pose a significant flood risk to properties lower down the valley . Incidents of flooding and damage to road by water are increasing and will only get worse as an effect of climate change
- There are serious access problems that go well beyond the question of immediate access to the development via Chelmick Drive and the demolition of one (currently occupied) bungalow. Clive Avenue is a particular concern: the carriageway is narrow and there is NO pavement or pedestrian walkway. The road does not permit cars to pass each other when pedestrians are present.
- This site has been proposed and rejected on many previous occasions, including by HM Planning Inspectors. Nothing has materially changed in local and national policy and the site's inclusion as "preferred" would seem to indicate that Shropshire Council's site assessment systems needs to be reviewed to make it more reflective of local needs and sensitivities .

My comments:

It is my view that the Snatchfield Farm site should be deleted from the Local Plan Review and from all future planning considerations. The land should be protected - its environmental, biodiversity and visual beauty should be further enhanced and the site rightly considered as a natural asset of high local, county and national value.

Yours faithfully

