

Save Our Blagrove Countryside!



STOP Unwanted Blagrove Development

The deadline for objections has been extended to 20th January 2025

NOW IS YOUR FINAL CHANCE TO OBJECT
to the damaging and unwanted development.

Go directly to the Planning Inspectorate website:

[https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?
caseid=3354667](https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?caseid=3354667)

and click on **"Make Representation"**

Or use the QR code from your phone.



There are four key areas which will affect whether the development goes ahead:

Preserving the Settlement Gap: Inappropriate development, a threat to Wokingham's character.

Natural Environment: Destruction of Bottle Copse Local Wildlife Site, impact on protected species.

Loss of Rural Character: Hundreds of houses replacing green fields, impacting wildlife and views.

Road Safety: Increased traffic, dangerous junctions, and closure of Blagrove Lane.

Submit your objection by 20th January 2025

PLEASE ACT BY 20 JAN 2025!

More detail on reasons to object - please use and put in your own words.

Preserving the Wokingham-Barkham Settlement Gap:

- This land has never been identified for housing development and is excluded from the council's new Local Plan Update due to its agricultural and ecological value.
- Development in this location would compromise the distinct character of both Barkham and Wokingham.

Natural Environment:

- The development will destroy Bottle Copse, a designated Local Wildlife Site within a pristine ancient woodland. This site provides crucial habitat for bats, badgers, and birds, which will be severely impacted by the proposed road and its associated streetlights.
- The development will necessitate the felling of at least 167 mature trees and the uprooting of ancient hedgerows, destroying vital habitats and foraging grounds for numerous protected species.
- The destruction of this woodland will have a devastating impact on the local ecosystem.

Loss of Rural Character:

- This development will permanently remove valuable green space from the community, negatively impacting our quality of life.
- The open views from Viking Field will be obstructed by hundreds of new houses, transforming the area from a rural edge into a town-like setting.
- The development will isolate wildlife, preventing them from accessing Viking Field from the surrounding countryside.
- Blagrove Lane, one of the last remaining examples of an ancient rural lane in Wokingham, will be overwhelmed by increased traffic from the development.

Road Safety:

- The developer proposes closing Blagrove Lane to northbound traffic, forcing all traffic from the new estate onto a single southbound exit.
- To accommodate the increased traffic, the developer proposes a widened road junction outside Evendons School, posing a significant safety risk to children.
- Additionally, a new junction on Barkham Road will be located at a hazardous point near a bend and a hill.

The Inspector needs to understand how many local people value this open countryside.

Make your voice heard.

In 2013 the residents of Evendons Lane and the surrounding area gathered as a Residents Association to try to maintain the local environment and help ensure that any development on land surrounding Leslie Sears and Viking Field was appropriate. Now, Berkeley Homes has submitted a planning application to build approximately 350 homes beside Blagrove Lane within the unspoilt countryside. You can help stop this by objecting and donating to our funds using the QR code.

Website: evendons-area.org.uk/saveblagrove - Donate: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/saveblagrove

