



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
North Wiltshire and Swindon Group

**PROTECT
WILTSHIRE[©]**

46 New Park Street
Devizes, Wiltshire
SN210 1DT
phone: 01380 722157

Patron: HM The Queen

email: annehenshaw@freeuk.com

Lee Burman,
Planning Services,
Wiltshire Council,
Monkton Park,
Chippenham SN15 1ER
21 April 2017

Dear Mr. Burman,

Re app 17/03417 Land at Jt 17 M4

This application is not according to the development plan. In the absence of any direction with regard to where employment sites, outside of those indicated through the relevant allocations in the Core Strategy, will go, what is needed is a forward plan for this area that demarcates employment site boundaries and ensures that there are good buffers between them and the nearby villages.

This is use of Greenfield land as opposed to Brownfield. The applicant relies on the argument that there is inadequate brownfield alternatives to meet Wiltshire's goals for economic growth. That, however, depends entirely on the nature of that economic growth. This is very variable and we do not support the type of growth which simply delivers large or medium scale warehousing for transit purposes since previous evidence shows that the number of jobs offered by such organizations are low.

This is a speculative application leaving nearly everything to reserved matters. It is not possible, therefore, at this stage to tell what it will really be like, or what will go on there.

Our comments are on

- a) The geographical location. Depending on the details at full application stage we might support the proposal.
- b) Full application stage. We will watch carefully for environmental impact, building scale and placement (relative to site size and its environs) type of business, job quality and numbers, and detailed transport proposals which do not rely on car use.

We would expect to see any employment (B8) proposals near the motorway junction seriously consider what we proposed to Wiltshire Council at the Site Allocations Plan consultations and Inquiry, namely a rapid light transport system linking Chippenham and its increased population, with this employment area.

With SWLEP funding agreed for the Junction improvements it is essential to look long term at the Chippenham housing growth in relation to employment growth sites and ensure the two are effectively linked by a modern effective transport system. This has been steadfastly refused to date.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Henshaw

Chairman: Anne Henshaw Vice Chairman: Pauline Lyons

The Campaign to Protect Rural England – Wiltshire Branch Chairman: Dr John Kirkman
Registered Charity No. 1134677; limited liability company with charitable status, company number 7127110 England and Wales
Working for a beautiful and living countryside, it is active locally and membership is open to all

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