

Objection to Planning Application 2026/60/91494/E

Dear Planning Officer,

I am writing to formally object to Planning Application 2026/60/91494/E. I live in this area because it offers a lower-density environment, valued green space, access to nature, peace, and a sense of openness.

My objection is based on the environmental and community impacts of the proposal, including harm to biodiversity, loss of openness, increased pressure on local infrastructure and services, and the cumulative effects of additional traffic, pollution, lighting, hard surfaces, and disturbance to habitats and wildlife. It is green belt land and should be kept Green Belt Land.

Green Belt harm and loss of openness

The Green Belt exists to prevent urban sprawl, retain openness, and protect land from inappropriate development.

Biodiversity, habitats and wildlife

The land and surrounding green spaces provide important habitat for wildlife and contribute to local biodiversity. Development would risk the loss, fragmentation, or disturbance of habitats through construction activity, increased lighting, noise, traffic, and human activity. These impacts could reduce the ability of wildlife to move, feed, shelter, and breed in the area.

Environmental damage, pollution and hard surfaces

The proposal would increase the amount of hard surface in the area, which may contribute to surface water run-off and reduce the land's natural ability to absorb rainfall. Additional vehicle movements would also increase air pollution, noise, and emissions. More lighting would affect the rural and open character of the area and could disturb wildlife, particularly nocturnal species. These cumulative impacts would be harmful to the environment and the amenity of existing residents.

Traffic, road safety and local amenity

An increase in population and housing density would inevitably create additional traffic.

Pressure on health, education and community services

The development would also increase demand on already stretched local services, including GP surgeries, health services, schools, community facilities, and other local infrastructure. R

Heritage, bird habitat and the openness around Edge Mill

I am also concerned about the impact of the proposal on the setting, heritage value and local character associated with Birds Edge Mill and Birds Edge Farm and the surrounding open land. The openness around this area forms an important part of its character and should be protected from development that would urbanise the landscape or reduce its historic and environmental value.

The green and open land around Birds Edge Mill also supports birdlife, bats and other wildlife, providing feeding, nesting, roosting and movement opportunities. Increased construction, traffic, lighting, noise and human activity could disturb birds, bats and other species and damage or fragment their habitat. Artificial lighting is a particular concern because it can affect

bat flight paths, foraging areas and roosting behaviour, as well as reducing the darker, more natural character of the area.

Conclusion

For the reasons set out above, I respectfully request that the Council refuse Planning Application 2026/60/91494/E. The proposal would cause unacceptable harm to the Green Belt, biodiversity, local environmental quality, road safety, and community infrastructure. It would also erode the openness, peace, and natural character and wildlife alike.

Yours faithfully,