



The Bearsted  
& Thurnham  
Society



The Residents' Association for the Civil Parishes of Bearsted and Thurnham

Caroline Vanhecke, Chair  
92 Ashford Road, Bearsted Kent ME15 8PQ



Ms Amanda Marks  
Planning Officer  
Maidstone Borough Council  
Maidstone House  
King Street  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME19 6JQ

9 November 2015

Dear Ms Marks

## **MA/14/506738 OUT: Land at Barty Farm, Roundwell, Bearsted**

The Society has sent objections to the development of this site on 10 February. We continue to be opposed to the revised proposals submitted for the above application and we support the objections made by local residents and especially those by Mr and Mrs Springett in their letter of 30 October.

Their points are well made. The current proposals to remove the centre line markings between Barty House and Cross Keys simply adds a further hazard to pedestrian safety and will do nothing to slow vehicle speed. Nor are the pedestrian refuges, for the reasons Mr and Mrs Springett explain, an answer to the dangers pedestrians will face both in Roundwell and Water Lane. Finally, the proposals to remove the section of wall at Barty House, fronting onto Roundwell, are unacceptable and damaging to the setting of Barty House, a listed building.

For all the reasons given here and in our previous letter the Society believes the proposals are unacceptable and planning permission should be refused. Indeed, we doubt whether, had not Maidstone's search for housing sites reached desperation proportions, the Council would be entertaining such a wholly unsuitable location. The desperate search to meet a 5 year housing supply that many consider unnecessary and unsustainable, should not be used as a reason for granting planning permission for an ill-conceived proposal on a site which is fundamentally unsuitable for residential development and will only increase dangers to motorists, pedestrians and horse riders using Roundwell and Water Lane.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Vanhecke