



## **THURNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

*Parish Clerk: Mrs. Sherrie Babington  
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Mr. Timms  
Maidstone Borough Council  
Maidstone House  
King Street  
Maidstone  
Kent

24<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Mr. Timms

### **18/506656/FULL Popesfield Bearsted Road Weaving Kent**

**Erection of a new two-storey primary school and special educational needs secondary school with formation of new access onto Bearsted Road, together with associated car parking and drop off area, pedestrian access, drainage, areas for formal and informal outdoor play and landscaping works.**

Thurnham Parish Council has considered the above application and wish to raise strong objections to the proposals as follows:

1. The proposed location with its access onto Bearsted Road is unsuitable. There is already a huge issue with traffic congestion in the area and the proposals will exacerbate the issue.
2. There are grave concerns regarding pedestrian safety for children who walk to school.
3. The proposed access to the site from Bearsted Road is totally inadequate and will increase traffic congestion in the area.
4. There is inadequate parking at the proposed site, and this will have an impact on traffic congestion as vehicles will use Bearsted Road for parking.
5. The development of two schools on the Popes Field site would mean the destruction of the current Nature Reserve located there. Taking away the wildlife corridor will be detrimental to the ecosystem in the area.

The Parish Council supports the concerns raised by the neighbouring Parish Councils of Bearsted and Boxley, along with the numerous concerns raised by residents living in the area.

For the reasons stated above, Thurnham Parish Council objects to this application and wish to see this refused.

If the Planning Officer is minded to recommend approval, we would wish to have the application determined by the Planning Committee.

Yours sincerely

*S Babington*

Mrs. S Babington  
Clerk to the Parish Council