



Little Brickhill is a lovely, characterful village which was deemed worth saving when the A5 bypass was built. It now faces the threat of being engulfed by characterless modern houses. There is so much history here with many old houses and buildings and much of it has Conservation area status.

It would be tragic if Little Brickhill was lost, and it will be should these houses be built.

The landscape in the Brickhills is of outstanding beauty with the rolling hills and fields. Wildlife is being squeezed out of Milton Keynes as buildings spread insidiously into the surrounding countryside. The landscape along both V10, Brickhill Street and the A4146 has been changed forever by the massive relentless developments where once kingfishers flew along the river and fieldfares and redwings gathered in the fields. I find it hard to accept that the area around Little Brickhill now faces the same threat.

The fields around Little Brickhill are home for hedgehogs, foxes, badgers and rabbits. The bird life is rich and varied – Sky lark, Kestrels, Marsh and Long tailed tits, woodpeckers – Green and Pied, Pied flycatchers, Chiffchaffs and Redpolls, Barn owls, Tawny owls and Little Owls, to name but a few. There are also several varieties of bats and great crested newts live in the village garden ponds. To destroy their habitat by building on the surrounding fields would be a tragedy and a travesty.

Apart from the wildlife the area really is of outstanding beauty. Driving on the A5 one can see the open countryside and the historic hills of the Brickhills. Milton Keynes is generally flat and it would be a massive error of judgement to destroy the beauty of the one of the rare hills in this part of Buckinghamshire by building all over it.

Once the countryside is destroyed it can never be replaced.

The developers will say that they will plant trees but this is woefully inadequate. It is impossible to compensate for lost fields and open countryside by a few small fences in gardens and decorative trees by the driveways.

Other valid concerns are the increased traffic through Little Brickhill, the dangerous slip roads onto and exiting the A5 for the village and general traffic congestion with associated safety concerns and pollution. The road between Great and Little Brickhill is already dangerous with cars frequently driving too fast when there are often bicycles and horses on the road. The road is narrow and without a pavement so walkers are also at risk. If these proposed houses are built there will inevitably be a massive increase in traffic through Little Brickhill and associated accidents.

Has the city council considered alternative sites which are already partially developed ie. Brownfield land so that pristine countryside is not ruined for ever?

I appreciate that Milton Keynes Council is obliged to provide a quota of new homes but there are far more suitable areas for development than the beautiful land around the historic village of Little Brickhill. The countryside in this area will be permanently blighted by this development should it go ahead and I appeal to the Council to turn it down once again.

Karen H. Philbin (Dr)