



30th January 2013

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RESPONDENT ID - 6043585

South Gloucestershire Core Strategy Planning Inspection – Building on Land at Morton Way, Thornbury

I oppose the building of housing to the north east side of Morton Way Thornbury because:

1) I do not agree that a case is necessarily made for further housing in Thornbury as suggested in the revised core strategy document. The issue of an ageing population is common across the country, and I do not believe that excess school spaces imply that families must be found to fill them. The provision of school places should be tailored to the population rather than the other way around. I believe the population of the town is sufficient to maintain the facilities in the town centre, the issue is that local residents do not use them sufficiently. Even if further housing is built, it would not be possible to ensure they remained occupied by young families.

2) The character and size of the Town would be radically changed and remove many of the benefits of living in a reasonably sized town with close access to open countryside. The sites will also have a large visual impact

3) The land concerned is primarily BMV quality and under the NPF should not be developed unless other alternatives are not available.

4) The footpaths and fields in this area are used by a large number of residents to the east of the town as an amenity for healthy activities such as walking/running/dog walking in a rural setting. I also consider it has a significant educational value in introducing children to farming and farm animals easily accessible close to their homes. This would be destroyed by housing development, and would mean the character of countryside in this area would disappear.

5) Core Strategy Policy CS32 states it will 'Ensure that the current character and setting of Thornbury's open spaces, which contribute strongly to the attractiveness of Thornbury, is maintained and enhanced;' Once any development outside Morton Way is authorised, there will be no control over further developments to the East of the town, which will completely alter the current character of the town.

Regards,

Claire Warren

