

**Planning Application P14/V1663/FUL - 111– Land to the south of Blenheim Hill Harwell
Oxon OX11 ODS**

Response from the Keep Harwell Rural Campaign

Contact:

Dr A E Hughes

Chairman: Keep Harwell Rural Campaign (KHR)

Kingswood

2 King's Lane

Harwell

Didcot

OX11 0EJ

Tel: (01235) 835301

Fax: (01235) 832667

E mail:

a.hughes09@btinternet.com

Keep Harwell Rural (KHR) is a residents' group independent of any statutory body. It was formed in 1998 to enable residents to express their views about changes that may affect Harwell, in ways that could augment and complement the views expressed by the Harwell Parish Council. KHR has inputs from a cross-section of villagers concerned about education, traffic and road safety, sustainability, the amenities provided by our nearest town, Didcot, and the preservation of the character of a village with a thousand year history.

KHR has responded to planning documents since 1998 and has taken part in Structure Plan and Local Plan Public Enquiries.

The Keep Harwell Rural Campaign submitted objections to the original Planning Application in August 2014.

KHR's main objections were to the location of the development within the area protected by saved policy NE 10 in the publication version of the VWH Local Plan 2031, and that the development would therefore harm the protection of a rural gap between Harwell and Didcot.

The revised planning application has done nothing to change or ameliorate these objections. The other points that we made concerning the status of this application in the local planning context still remain.

KHR also endorses and supports the many other detailed criticisms of the application in the response made by Peter Hobin of 14 The Cleave, Harwell, Didcot OX11 0EL. In particular, we share the concerns that he has expressed about:

- The purported need for the proposed development in the context of the Vale's requirement for a 5 year housing supply;
- The transport plans and accessibility of village facilities to potential residents of the proposed development;
- The landscape character and views from North Wessex Downs AONB that would be harmed, infringing saved policy NE 9 'Lowland Vale', which requires that new development should not have an adverse impact upon long open views within or across the area.

Therefore KHR continues to oppose the application and urges its rejection.