

Application reference: 26/00887/OUT

Site: Land northeast of Bramley (“Bramley Meadows”), Bramley, Hampshire

Proposal: Outline application (all matters reserved except access) for residential-led development of up to 650 dwellings, a local centre, primary school land, employment land and associated infrastructure

Subject: OBJECTION on various grounds - supplementary comments

Dear Sir or Madam,

Stratfield Saye Parish Council submits the following supplementary comments and photographic evidence in addition to its original objection, dated 26 June 2026, to planning application 26/00887/OUT for the proposed development of up to 650 dwellings at Bramley Meadows, Folly Lane, Bramley.

The Parish Council continues to object strongly to the application for all the reasons set out in its original objection. The photographs accompanying this submission provide further evidence of the existing character and use of the local road network, the conflicts already experienced by road users, and the likely consequences of introducing a substantial volume of additional traffic into this rural area.

Livestock being driven along Folly Lane



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**what a lovely sight this morning.
The epitome of village life**

This photograph shows livestock being driven along Folly Lane. The movement of livestock along local lanes is an established part of farming life in the area. The application proposes a vehicular access directly onto Folly Lane. The resulting increase in traffic would create serious conflict between development traffic, agricultural activity, livestock and other vulnerable road users.

The Parish Council is concerned that, should the development proceed, traditional farming practices of this kind would become increasingly difficult and potentially unsafe.

Drag hunt passing along New Street, Stratfield Saye



This photograph shows a drag hunt passing along New Street in Stratfield Saye on 2 August 2026. Approximately 20 horses took part, ridden by both adults and children.

Events such as this form part of the rural culture, character and identity of the parish. The local road network is regularly used by horse riders, both individually and in organised groups.

The substantial increase in traffic likely to arise from the proposed development would create additional danger for riders and horses and could jeopardise the continuation of established rural activities of this nature.

Conflict between agricultural, commercial and vulnerable road users



This photograph provides a clear illustration of the conflicts that already occur on the local road network.

Agricultural vehicles and large heavy goods vehicles use these roads daily. Because many of the roads are narrow and lack adequate passing space, other road users are frequently forced onto the grass verge to allow larger vehicles to pass.

This is particularly dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists, runners and horse riders. The addition of substantial development traffic would increase the frequency and severity of these conflicts on roads that are already unsuitable for the volume and variety of traffic using them.

Collision at the Five Ways junction, Stratfield Saye



These photographs record another collision at the Five Ways junction on Stratfield Saye Road on Monday, 27 July 2026.

Fortunately, no one was injured and the police were not informed. However, incidents of this nature are occurring with increasing frequency and are believed to be associated with the restricted visibility and difficult alignment of the junction.

The Parish Council considers this especially relevant because the proposed accesses onto Folly Lane and Bramley Lane will channel Reading-bound development traffic towards this junction. This would increase vehicle movements at a location where there are already serious and demonstrable highway-safety concerns.

The absence of a police record should not be interpreted as evidence that the incident did not occur or that the junction is safe. Many damage-only collisions and near misses are not formally reported and will therefore not appear in standard accident statistics.

A33 Congestion



This photograph was taken on the A33 at 11.50am on Thursday 6th August 2026. It was taken during the school holidays and outside of normal rush hour, when traffic levels would be expected to be lower. The queue stretched from Wellington Riding, past the Bramley/Sherfield section of the A33 until it reached the Crockford Roundabout. There were no accidents, roadworks or other incidents on the A33 that morning. The congestion was simply caused by the sheer volume of traffic using the road.

The A33, and in particular the Bramley/Sherfield section of the road, is already extremely busy. It is not a road with obvious spare capacity waiting to be filled; it is a constrained local corridor. The proposed development should therefore be assessed on its real, practical impact on the local highway network, rather than on any theoretical assumption that the A33 can simply absorb the thousands of additional vehicles that the development will generate.

Bramley Lane and Sherfield Road junction



This photograph shows severe congestion and disorder at the junction of Bramley Lane and Sherfield Road on the morning of 9 July 2026.

The junction is already heavily used by vehicles and by children and families travelling to Bramley Primary School on Bramley Lane. Existing traffic conditions make it difficult and dangerous for children to walk or cycle to school.

The proposed development would introduce a substantial increase in vehicle movements at and around this junction. This would compound existing congestion and create an even greater safety risk for children and other vulnerable road users.

Stratfield Saye Parish Council considers that these photographs demonstrate the difference between theoretical highway capacity and the practical operation of the local road network. They show the real conditions experienced by residents, farmers, schoolchildren, cyclists, pedestrians, and horse riders.

Wider public representations

Many hundreds of residents from across the local area have submitted representations to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, raising a broad range of material planning concerns in relation to this application.

The issues raised most frequently include:

1. Highway safety and the substantial increase in traffic likely to arise from the development.
2. Congestion at the Bramley level crossing and on the A33.

3. The unsuitability of Stratfield Saye Road and the surrounding rural lanes for additional traffic.
4. The availability and resilience of potable-water supplies and wastewater infrastructure.
5. Flood risk, surface-water drainage and downstream impacts.
6. Pressure on local infrastructure, including schools, healthcare facilities and utilities.
7. Loss of countryside, landscape character, agricultural land, habitats and biodiversity.
8. The absence of secured, funded and deliverable infrastructure before occupation.
9. The sustainability of the location and compliance with national and local planning policy.

The representations demonstrate an overwhelming level of opposition to the application. Of the 528 comments recorded, only one supports the proposal and two are neutral. On those figures, more than 99% of commentators oppose the development. There is therefore virtually no demonstrated local support for the proposal.

Conclusion

The accompanying photographic evidence reinforces the concerns set out in the Parish Council's original objection. The local roads are not merely routes for private vehicles: they are shared by agricultural machinery, livestock, pedestrians, cyclists, runners, horse riders, schoolchildren and commercial traffic.

These existing uses are central to the functioning and character of the rural area. The introduction of traffic associated with up to 650 dwellings would materially increase conflict between road users, exacerbate existing congestion and highway-safety problems, and threaten established agricultural and rural activities.

Stratfield Saye Parish Council therefore continues to object to planning application 26/00887/OUT and respectfully requests that planning permission be refused for the reasons set out in its original objection and these supplementary comments.

Yours faithfully,

Stratfield Saye Parish Council