

12th June 2025

Alex and Laura Mitchell
42 Arlesey Road
Ickleford, Hitchin
SG5 3UU

FAO: Mr Shaun Greaves
North Herts Council
PO Box 10613,
Nottingham
NG6 6DW

Cc: Mr Thomas Howe

Objection to proposed dwellings behind 34 Arlesey Road – North Herts Ref: 25/01094/FP

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to formally object to the proposed housing development on the land to the rear of 34 Arlesey Road, Ickleford, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3UU, per the communication set out within North herts letter ref: 25/01094/FP.

There are several reasons why we, along with many other local residents, believe that this development would be inappropriate and detrimental to the area:

1. Proximity to the Green Belt

The land in question lies extremely close to the designated Green Belt. Any development in this area risks undermining the purpose of the Green Belt, which is to prevent urban sprawl, protect the countryside, and maintain the character of rural communities.

2. Overdevelopment in the Village

There is already a significant number of new homes either under construction or recently completed in our village. Adding further developments at this time risks overwhelming the existing infrastructure and changing the nature of the community beyond recognition.

3. Lack of School Capacity

Our local primary school is already operating at full capacity and is oversubscribed. Additional housing will inevitably bring more families into the area, increasing the demand for school places and placing further pressure on educational resources.

4. Impact on Landscape and Views

The proposed development would cause substantial disruption to the existing landscape. The view from the back of our home, which currently consists of open fields and natural scenery, would be replaced by rooftops and construction activity, severely affecting the enjoyment and character of our property.

5. **Environmental and Quality of Life Concerns**

The loss of green space and increased urbanisation would negatively impact local wildlife and reduce residents' quality of life. It would also contribute to increased traffic, noise, and pollution in a currently peaceful residential setting.

For all of the above reasons, we strongly urge the council to reject the planning application for housing development on this land. I respectfully ask that you consider the long-term impact on the village and its residents before approving any further developments.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Alex and Laura Mitchell

