

I write to object to Planning Application 26/00047/PIP.

I have association with the horses on this field for a couple of years now, and it would be extremely disappointing to see their much-loved home demolished. This land has been home to horses for decades. The Letchworth Heritage Foundation should be proud to own such grazing land, which is increasingly rare nowadays like a needle in a haystack. If all green belt areas are sold, what heritage will be left?

Many valid points have already been raised previously, and I fully agree with them, including the lack of pavements along the road, the absence of shops in the village, the openness to Arch Road, and the general disturbance this development would cause to existing residents. There are also additional important factors to consider.

The stable blocks and adjacent fields provide a natural habitat for protected birds such as swallows, wrens and blackbirds, as well as many other species including pheasants, deer, foxes and dragonflies. The list is endless. As surrounding towns continue to expand, preserving biodiversity in the very limited remaining green spaces, such as this paddock, should be a key reason for objection.

Under the proposed development, the gardens of 3–4 of the 9 houses would face a large agricultural building where cattle are kept on a cyclical basis. While flies and odours are perfectly acceptable in a rural setting with horses, it is questionable whether new residents would appreciate these conditions.

As the village is located between three towns — Stevenage, Hitchin and Little Wymondley — traffic congestion is already severe during rush hours. Even turning onto Hitchin Road can sometimes be dangerous. Adding nine houses, each with one or typically two cars, along with delivery vehicles, would significantly worsen conditions on these narrow country roads,



particularly the route to Hitchin Road. A village should also be a place where people can enjoy nature and take part in outdoor activities; running, cycling, or just safely access nearby bridleways without the risk of being hit by a car. Safety for everyone should be the highest priority.

The demolition of the stables would also lead to the loss of our small but strong community, whose members are deeply committed to the daily care and wellbeing of the horses and the maintenance of the land.

I strongly object this application and really hope this greenbelt can be saved

Picture about the well-used stable – Febr.2026. If it is raining the farrier must use the stables, no alternative option.