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I have lived in Hadley Wood my entire life and I attended the local primary school when I was a boy. I value the green spaces within Hadley Wood and the Green Belt protects the special character of the area. I wholeheartedly object to the proposed site allocated for 160 new homes on Green Belt land. The reasons for my objection are as follows:

1. The views from Crescent West are an integral feature of the character of the area. I have often walked along the road and enjoyed the pleasant landscape. The connection with nature is excellent and I'm sure is important to people's mental health and wellbeing. A brief sighting of a horse was a wondrous joy as a child and I hate to think others would be deprived of this. I was not surprised to hear that the Hadley Wood Heritage and Character Assessment established that the site provides "important views" and "acts as a buffer separating Hadley Wood from other urban areas".

2. There is a historic significance to the Green Belt in Hadley Wood. The Battle of Barnet was fought in this area, a battle in which the War of the Roses found its turning point and from which Shakespeare found inspiration in Henry VI. The Green Belt in Hadley Wood has always been reminiscent of this period of history. The battle is something one can imagine took place on this land and as such this land should be cherished for its splendour. The fields of this area determined the Tudor monarchy. Many homes in Hadley Wood architecturally observe this Tudor style. The architecture of the area is reflective of its place in history, developing property that is not in keeping with this is a travesty. The land is owned by the Duchy of Lancaster, which traces its existence back to 1265, and I am horrified to think that the Duchy is seriously considering this change in use of land.

3. The plan expects 160 new homes but does not mention 160 new car parking spaces. It is a well known fact in the area that there are poor transport provisions other than those that lead into London. The current bus links cater for the elderly and their weekend shopping. All new residents would undoubtedly own, use and travel by car. If we assume one car per household we have to account for 160 new cars. Regardless of what the development looks like, its effect on the area would be as significant as a multi-storey car park and the provision of 160 new places to park. These car parking spaces would be perpetually occupied and naturally would not even be useful to current Hadley Wood residents. I have assumed one space per household. However, should you observe the number of cars to houses in Hadley Wood currently, you would have to multiply this figure at least 2 or 3 times. Furthermore, should you expect that any of these households host guests, this number would increase again. If we expect 500 spaces to park, we also expect, in effect, Palace Gardens Multi-storey Car Park. The effect of the serenity of the area would be diabolical. Ignoring whatever damage is done to the visual beauty of the area, the impact on the area would still be unforgivable.

4. Having observed other plans the council has for my local area, I am not shocked to find a scheme that is inconsiderate to the demand on local services and infrastructure. The primary school could not manage 160 new families worth of children and other amenities such as post office or GP would not be available to any new residents.

There may be a demand to build 25,00 homes by 2039, but there is no exceptional justification for building on our Green Belt. The damage you propose is irreversible. The public good of housing does not justify scarring the Green Belt.

Thank you for taking the time to read my objection.

I trust that you will make the right decision and decide to revise your plan, leaving Hadley Wood out of your bid for "intensification".

Yours sincerely,