

**Our reference:** COM488665247

**Application number:** 2022/3796

**Application address:** 16 Oatlands Drive, Weybridge, KT13 9JL

**Name:** Mrs Thomas

**Address:** 19A Oatlands Chase, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 9RH

**Comment type:** You object to the planning application

**Date of comment:** 19 Feb 2023

**Comment:** I still struggle to understand how the development directly next to the new proposed development was allowed. Now the developer seeks to add insult to injury.

1. The proposal goes more way to destroying the lovely housing that Oatlands Drive used to provide and the reason people want to live there. "Young families" do not want apartments with no garden, they want houses with gardens. And most of the time, we see that actually they could buy a house with a garden for the same price as the developers want to charge them for a small flat. So I don't believe it will do anything to attract young families. And the people who live nearby are seeing the place they chose to live in rebuilt unrecognisably - and that is without even considering the road safety and parking issues.
2. The proposal appears not even to provide as much as one parking space per residence, despite the fact that the majority of the apartments will be 2 bedroom and some will be 3. The transport statement makes many statements about it being reasonable for these people to have only one car and reasonable for them to walk up to 2km. The fact remains that unless working in central London, the vast majority of working people will need to drive to work. The fact remains that of those people who could in theory walk or get the bus to the station, many of them actually can't because they need to drop children at school and there is simply not the time to do all this on foot. The fact remains that every day several bikes seem to be stolen from Walton station, so who would want to cycle there? So many of the buyers will want to have 2 cars, and if they need 2 cars, they will need somewhere to park. That somewhere will be the local roads, thus inconveniencing the residents of those roads.
3. The traffic situation on Oatlands Drive is at times dreadful. It is usual for it to take around an hour to complete a 6 mile journey if that journey involves Oatlands Drive and Walton Bridge. Constantly adding housing with more cars to need to turn in and out can only make this worse.
4. So much effort has gone into working up a nice nature environment by the bridge which will now be overlooked by huge apartment blocks.

Please, Council, think of the reasons people choose to live around Oatlands, and understand that these proposals are just destroying what was Oatlands without providing the affordable living for young families that they claim to be doing.