

Ref 5.8 Identifying and assessing sites.

Lawton Heath Road and Cherry Lane

I have significant concerns regarding the suitability of these locations for future development and believe several fundamental infrastructure constraints should be fully assessed before any allocation is considered.

The areas identified are predominantly semi-rural in nature and are largely made up of low-density bungalow developments. The existing road network consists mainly of narrow country lanes that are already under pressure from current traffic levels. Access is constrained by a canal bridge that is effectively only wide enough to accommodate a single vehicle at a time. Any substantial increase in housing would inevitably generate additional traffic movements and could lead to congestion, highway safety concerns, and difficulties for emergency service access.

There is also a notable lack of supporting community infrastructure within the immediate area. There are no readily accessible schools or GP surgeries capable of accommodating significant population growth, and there is little evidence that the necessary infrastructure improvements have been identified or funded.

Utilities infrastructure is another major concern. The existing water network is already perceived to be under pressure, and any proposal for additional housing should be supported by a robust assessment from the relevant utility providers confirming that sufficient capacity exists. Furthermore, some properties in the area are not connected to the mains gas network, which raises questions regarding the adequacy of existing utility services and their ability to support further development.

In summary, the proposed locations appear to lack the necessary transport links, public services, and utility infrastructure required to support significant new development. Without substantial investment in roads, healthcare provision, education facilities, and utility networks, such proposals risk placing unacceptable pressure on existing residents and services.

I would therefore urge the Council to carefully consider these constraints and provide clear evidence demonstrating how the necessary infrastructure improvements would be delivered before progressing any site allocation within this area