

Mrs Maryon AVERY



25 July 2025

South Kesteven District Council

Re: Draft Local Plan for Baston SKPR-319 (SKPR -109 and 110)

I am a long way from being a planning professional but as a resident of Baston for nine years I would like to make the following observations and express my views on the proposed local plan as far as I understand how its implications will affect this village:

1. Roads, traffic management

- The Waterside junction of King Street, the A15 and the turn to the Thetford Estate has been the site of many accidents in recent years, ranging from a minor shunt to fatalities. Any increase in the number of vehicles is bound to increase the potential for accidents.
- The condition of the road surface of King Street is currently poor along its whole length. Despite this, the road's being so straight encourages speeding. Both issues would need to be addressed to accommodate any increase in traffic.
- Additional commercial and domestic traffic on the Main Street/A15/ Greatford Road junction will make the current conditions even more difficult, with increased potential for disruption and accidents. Already when these occur there is a considerable knock-on effect on the A15 either side of the crossroads.

2. Walking, cycling opportunities

- I occasionally walk from my home into the village. This involves crossing the A15 using an island and is not for the faint-hearted, the less mobile or unaccompanied children.
- I once walked to Waterside from my home. Never again, as I felt extremely vulnerable along the stretch from where the footpath behind Whatoff Way meets King Street to the garden centre. There is no footpath and the verge is very uneven. As above, traffic is often fast-moving.
- Cyclists (of which I am not one) must feel vulnerable on the A15 and King Street.
- Cyclists hold up motor traffic which contributes to drivers' frustration and impatience. A bad combination. With more traffic, it can only get worse.
- I am not convinced that there is any scope for improvement.

3. Existing facilities

- Any increase in population would overload existing facilities
- Already Baston primary school is full
- the Deepings Medical Practice already struggles to cope

- Kirkstone House School is cited as a secondary school: this is a private school therefore not available to all; I am aware that the poor condition of some of the buildings and grounds are a source of vexation to many of their neighbours – hardly an attractive proposition.
- While I appreciate that people need to live somewhere, a development on the proposed scale appears disproportionate.

4. Baston Green

In my opinion, this development would be divisive and create a second Baston with the A15 creating a kind of border.

I hope the planning authority will bear my views in mind when drawing up the Local Plan.

With kind regards

*Maryon Avery*