

Comment ID: 10006

Location in consultation document: Table 3

Name: Oliver Heaton

Comment: Dear Sirs,

I am providing a comment as a resident of Ampney Mary and someone who cares deeply about the local environment. I do not have planning expertise, but I have read the consultation information and feel compelled to object to the proposed allocation of around 600–660 houses north of Ampney Crucis.

My main worries are about the impact on wildlife and the surrounding countryside and the safety risks from the extra traffic such a large development would bring. I am also very concerned that the scale of the proposal would completely change the character of a very small, historic Cotswold village and take away many of the everyday things my young family currently enjoy:

1. Wildlife, countryside and our everyday use of the fields - The fields and hedgerows around Ampney Crucis are rich in wildlife. Local residents regularly see birds of prey, bats, owls, hedgehogs and other species that depend on the existing mix of pasture, trees and hedgerows around the village. For my family, these aren't abstract "assets" on a map: we walk around the proposed fields, go blackberry picking along the hedges, and spend time simply being outside together.

Losing these fields to a large housing estate would not only remove habitat for those animals but would also remove a much loved local walking area and a place where my children have grown up exploring and learning about nature. It would change the village entirely from our point of view, because so much of what we do as a family is bound up with those fields and that countryside.

Covering this land with 600+ houses, roads, gardens and street lighting would inevitably destroy or severely fragment this habitat. For a village within the Cotswolds National Landscape, it is very hard to accept that this level of damage to wildlife and everyday access to nature is an acceptable or necessary choice when there are other, more suitable locations for large scale growth.

2. Traffic and safety - At the moment, Ampney Crucis is served by narrow village roads and the A417. Even now, traffic can feel fast and intimidating at certain points, particularly for children walking or cycling and for parents around school drop off and pick up times.

Adding 600+ homes would mean hundreds more cars, delivery vehicles and service vehicles moving in and out every day. That raises serious safety concerns: more congestion and conflict at junctions, greater risk for children walking to school or simply crossing village roads, and more noise and pollution in what is now a relatively quiet rural environment. I have not seen detailed, convincing transport assessments or safety proposals that make me feel these risks have been properly addressed, rather than just acknowledged.

3. Scale and character of the village - Ampney Crucis is a small historic village with conservation area status and buildings and spaces that go back many centuries, including its Domesday recorded origins. The proposal to add 600–660 houses would more than double, and probably almost triple, the size of the settlement, turning it into something entirely different in character.

Instead of being a compact rural village in open countryside where children can walk to school and families can easily reach fields and hedgerows, it would become dominated by a large modern housing estate on its edge, with the old village reduced to a small historic core attached to a new suburb. This does not feel like “proportionate” growth for a village of this nature, and it does not sit comfortably with national policy that talks about being sensitive to the character and setting of rural settlements and conserving heritage assets and their settings.

I understand that the council is under pressure to find space for a great many new homes, and I do not expect Ampney Crucis to be frozen in time. However, this particular proposal is, in my view, far beyond what our village and its surroundings can absorb without losing the very qualities that make it special and without putting children, wildlife and everyday family life at unnecessary risk.

I therefore ask that the council:

- Remove the proposed allocation of c.600–660 homes north of Ampney Crucis from the Local Plan.

- Focus major growth on larger settlements and any agreed new settlement locations, where schools, roads and other infrastructure can be planned at an appropriate scale from the outset.
- Limit future development at Ampney Crucis to genuinely small scale, sensitive schemes that respect the historic village, its wildlife and its landscape setting, and that do not overwhelm the available infrastructure and compromise road safety.

Thank you for considering my comments and views as a local resident, parent and member of this community.

Yours faithfully,

Oliver Heaton

Comment ID: 10008

Location in consultation document: Table 4

Name: Oliver Heaton

Comment: Dear Sirs,

I am providing a comment as a resident of Ampney Mary and someone who cares deeply about the local environment. I do not have planning expertise, but I have read the consultation information and feel compelled to object to the proposed allocation of around 600–660 houses north of Ampney Crucis.

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Losing these fields to a large housing estate would not only remove habitat for those animals but would also remove a much loved local walking area and a place where my children have grown up exploring and learning about nature. It would change the village entirely from our point of view, because so much of what we do as a family is bound up with those fields and that countryside.

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Thank you for considering my comments and views as a local resident, parent and member of this community.

Yours faithfully,

Oliver Heaton

Comment ID: 670

Email/Letter Representation

Name: O&H Land

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 187

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oddington Parish Council

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 853

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oliver

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 863

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oliver

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 246

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oliver Armitage

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 495

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oliver Paddison

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 672

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Oliver Paddison

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 283

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Olivia Estates

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 640

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Olivia Johnston

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 577

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Olivia Jones

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 378

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Olwen Watson

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)

Comment ID: 805

Email/Letter Representation

Name: Owen Jones

Comment: [Click here to view full comment](#)