From: Rowlands, Linda

Sent: 26 February 2015 09:03

To: Planning Policy

Subject: New local plan - call for sites - Irvine Road Orchard

Good morning,

I am writing to you with regard to the submission made by a local land owner for the potential development of the Irvine Road Orchard. I am a resident of Capel Road and would like to object to the proposal to make this Orchard a site for development.

As far as I understand this Orchard has stood untouched for over 40 years and has provided much enjoyment to local residents and students at the local schools. For an urbanised area, Capel, Irvine, Athelstan and Audley Road has a great deal of birds and insects and it is generally believed this small orchard is a delicate yet balanced haven for wildlife. I have seen stag beetles in the immediate vicinity and in my garden and have enjoyed watching groups of swifts feeding above the orchard in the summer. We also have a small and shy population of foxes who use the gardens to connect between the orchard. Neighbours have told me of Muntjac deer visiting their gardens, using the same route as the foxes.

The area has a good balance of rented and private housing, sporting facilities, allotments, schools and space for nature; a perfect environment for local residents. I would be grateful if you would help to maintain this perfect balance by rejecting this site for development.

Yours Sincerely

Linda Rowlands