From: Bronwyn Carter

**Sent:** 22 February 2015 11:03

To: Planning Policy

Subject: REF: ORCHARD LAND AND THE CHASE, OFF IRVINE ROAD

## FOR THE URGENT ATTENTION OF COLCHESTER BOROUGH PLANNING (22/02/1015)

I wish to register my objection to the application for the ancient urban orchard off Irvine Road to be redesignated as residential land, with a view to building several detached properties upon it.

My objection is based on the following grounds, each of which is relevant in planning terms.

The current Local Development Plan (LDP), which determines the local planning policy for the foreseeable future, specifically categorised the land as being not for development. It is designated a private open space and subject to an area wide tree preservation order, including hedgerows as well as ancient tree specimens.

Allowing any development, even the most 'sympathetic' alterations, for example the relocation of plant or wildlife or the preservation of a few isolated specimens will not suffice. This would destroy the integrity of the site, the habitat of over thirty species of wildlife and countless trees and plants, and simply would not meet the current designated status.

There will be no tangible benefit to the local community by way of long term financial or employment prospects. The only guarantee is a gain for the developer who has bought a site clearly marked as not for development, but who believes he can overrule the democratically elected council and their policies. This would set a terrible and dangerous example.

The traffic, even if The Chase is widened at the junction with Irvine road, will be increased. It is already especially hazardous with regard to manoeuvring in and out of The Chase with the volume, size and position of parked cars either side and opposite, and any development will increase the risk the the children walking to local schools.

Thank you for registering my objection. Yours faithfully

Miss Bronwyn Carter