

A guide on how to object to Upper Swallick



**Deadline for submission is
5pm on Friday 23rd January**

What we need you to do:

- 1) We need you to object to the “Local Plan Draft Spatial Strategy Regulation 18 Consultation”
- 2) Your objection must be with B&DBC by **5pm on Friday 23rd January 2026**.
- 3) Everyone who wishes to object will need to enter a unique objection. If three people sign the same objection, it will only count as one.
- 4) To help, we have compiled a list of possible key objection points, with some general supporting reasons for each. You do not need to use all, please just comment on issues which you feel strongly on. Receiving multiple varied combinations of such objections will reinforce the strength and diversity of feelings against the Upper Swallick proposal.
- 5) As part of your objection the following are required or it will not be accepted:
 - Your full Name
 - Address and Post Code
 - Email Address
 - Heading **“Local Plan Draft Spatial Strategy Regulation 18 Consultation”**
 - **“I wish to Object to Policy SPS 5.9 (Upper Swallick) for the following reasons: ”**
- 6) You can send your objection by: · Email to: ***local.plan@basingstoke.gov.uk***
 - By post to: Local Plan, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH
 - In person at the Council Offices
 - By using the Consultation Portal (this requires registration and is more complicated)
- 7) You should receive an email response from BDBC confirming receipt of your objection.

STaNHD appreciate all the support you can offer.

A guide to help residents who wish to object

This guide has been prepared by Cliddesden STAHD to help residents understand the main concerns about the inclusion of Upper Swallick in the Local Plan and to support you in making your own objections. You do not need to cover every issue identified, and you may have other issues to raise. What matters most is that comments reflect your own experience of living here.

Everyone in the family who wishes to object should respond individually.

1. Hackwood Lane

What's the issue? Hackwood Lane has been an integral part of the Village for the past 100 years. The Plan shows coalescence of the Hackwood Lane area of village with the new Upper Swallick development, which is not in accordance with the policies set out in the Plan.

2. Concerns about how this site was chosen

What's the issue? Upper Swallick was previously considered unsuitable for allocation in 2024 but is now proposed for allocation, despite many similar concerns still being identified. We need confidence that decisions are transparent, consistent and evidence-led.

You might want to comment on:

- How can a scheme which has been rejected twice be included in the new plan without any change
- All proposals need to be evidence based
- Whether alternatives were properly considered

3. Lasting harm to the environment and local heritage

What's the issue? Upper Swallick would affect heritage assets, farmland, biodiversity and dark skies.

You might want to comment on:

- The Conservation Area and listed buildings
- Loss of high-quality agricultural land

- Wildlife and habitat connections
- Climate change and increased car use
- The long-term effect of breaking through the M3, the division between the town and the countryside

4. Loss of countryside and valued views

What's the issue? The land proposed for development is open chalk downland that plays an important role in the setting of the village. Once countryside is built on, it cannot be replaced. Landscaping and buffers cannot recreate openness or long-distance views.

You might want to comment on:

- Views you value when walking, cycling or driving
- The sense of openness around Cliddesden
- The role countryside plays in village character
- The farmland for the build site is Grade 2 which is classed as “very good quality agricultural land”
- The impact on views from Farleigh Hill and Swallick Hill

5. Traffic, rural lanes and getting around safely

What's the issue? Upper Swallick depends on major transport changes that have not yet been fully designed or tested. If these measures do not work as intended, traffic may increase through Cliddesden, along narrow rural lanes and on the A339.

You might want to comment on:

- A significant increase in traffic on local roads which are already congested
- The suitability of Woods Lane, Hackwood Lane and nearby routes
- The risk of rural lanes becoming “rat runs.”
- A339 The Holiday Inn / Grove Road roundabout – already a major pinch-point
- Whether walking and cycling routes feel safe and realistic

6. Can services and utilities really cope?

What's the issue? A development of this scale will place significant pressure on water, wastewater, electricity and other essential services. If infrastructure is not delivered in advance, problems are often felt by existing communities.

You might want to comment on:

- Concerns about water supply River Loddon and the chalk aquifer
- Lack of investment in services infrastructure which was promised in the previous Local Plan
- Sewage and wastewater capacity
- Electricity and utilities infrastructure
- GP, dentist and school capacity

7. Is Upper Swallick really a Garden Village?

What's the issue? Upper Swallick is described as a "Garden Village", which in planning terms is a vision to "create a cohesive and sustainable community that enhances the natural environment", but the proposal appears to rely heavily on Basingstoke for jobs, schools, healthcare and other services.

You might want to comment on:

- Does Upper Swallick feels like a genuine standalone garden village
- The lack of employment opportunities on this site
- The absence of secondary schools
- Likely daily travel patterns and commuting
- Concerns about car dependency

8. Keeping Cliddesden a separate village

What's the issue? The Upper Swallick proposal would place a very large new settlement

immediately next to Cliddesden, with only a narrow area of open land (the strategic gap) between the village and new development.

You might want to comment on:

- How Cliddesden currently feels distinct from Basingstoke
- The importance of open countryside around the village
- Whether the proposed "gap" feels wide enough or meaningful
- Concerns about longer-term expansion beyond the current plan period

9. Respecting the village's Neighbourhood Plan

What's the issue? Cliddesden has a made Neighbourhood Plan, its contents shaped by local residents through a referendum and then approved by the council.

Neighbourhood Plans are meant to shape how development happens and protect what communities value.

You might want to comment on:

- The importance of local decision-making
- Protecting village character and setting
- Concerns regarding the design, scale and density of the plan

Final thoughts

You do not need to be technical or make long detailed comments. Personal experience and local knowledge are important. Even a short response helps decision-makers understand local views and concerns.

If you have any queries, or require some help, please email Les Smith: ljandsj.smith@hotmail.com or Mark Gifford: m.gifford1@outlook.com.