

21 AUG 2018

APP/18/00672 Land off Westwood Close, Emsworth

RECEIVED

Dear Mrs Haywood,

We are extremely unhappy about the proposal to build forty-six houses on the field to the east of Westbourne Avenue. We really cannot understand why Emsworth should be expected to take any further development... surely we have more than done our bit to help with the shortage of housing! Now, what was once a thriving, close-knit village community has become a huge, faceless urban sprawl whilst nothing has been done to improve our road system, and no new schools or youth centres or medical facilities have, as yet, been introduced at all — Meanwhile, local bus services have been heavily cut so that the new residents would have to rely on using their cars, putting added pressure and wear on roads which are already in an extremely bad state — not to mention the ^{possibility} ~~likelihood~~ of traffic jams at peak periods as a result of all these extra cars.

The area in question is ^{almost} the only remaining open-field country walk left in Emsworth and would be very sadly missed by all who live here. There is also the question of flooding. H.B.C. rejected a planning application on this site in 2013 on the grounds of the risk of flooding. How has the situation changed? With the water table, during the winter months, just 40cms. below the surface, how would the Sustainable Urban Drainage System cope? The likelihood is that the waste water from the new homes would "escape" into the River Ems, fouling and polluting it and thereby putting at risk the lives of many species of animals, birds and fish that live there at present —

I really am horrified at the prospect of this new development and I cannot ^{think} why any sane person should even, for one minute, consider it. I understand that Havant Borough Council's draft local plan has already identified sufficient sites to meet its housing requirement without needing this one, so why build more houses than we are required to do? Perhaps the Council is wanting to top up its coffers with the rates it would be able to rake in from the owners of these new homes. I, for one, would rather have the existing rates levied raised than to face the loss of any more "green spaces" — we have had enough!

Yours — in anger and disappointment Philippa M. Nalton.

P.T.O.

P.S. Am I right in believing that the council stands to gain not only from the council tax but that they also get about £12,000 for every house built ?? We were told this by the developers at the planning meeting!