

East Hampshire
District Council
Peas Poles
Petersfield, G031 4EX.

EMDCPLAN REC

29 FEB 2024

Ref. RLC1/RLC2

26/02/2024.

Dear Planning Officer,

I write to formally object to the proposed development sites RLC1/RLC2 in the centre of Rowland Castle village.

- ① The main objection is the impact on the conservation area and the character of our village.
- ② Impact of traffic, lack of existing parking.
- ③ In previous years the village have suffered from flooding, any further development would impact the situation.
- ④ As a resident for 43 years.
Brewer Hill has become a through road for non residents, speeding motorists exceeding the 30mph limit.
Any further development would only impact on the rural setting of the village.

I trust you will keep me informed in this matter.

Yours faithfully,



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2024 2:45 PM
To: EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>
Subject: EHDC Local Plan 2021-2040

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

I support the Local Plan specifically and solely in respect of the proposal for an additional 667 homes in Whitehill & Bordon. I do not support any increase in this number.

I question the potential for the creation of employment opportunities appropriate to the future population; the price of housing currently under construction is highly suggestive of occupation by those in white collar jobs and in middle to upper management roles. It seems extremely unlikely that sufficient such opportunities can be created locally (i.e., with the potential for walking/cycling to work as promoted by EHDC. Indeed, the experience to date is that the opportunities created are in the majority for blue collar, and construction skilled and labouring jobs (which are largely temporary).

Public transport is a current issue for the town and needs urgent attention. With its declared "climate emergency", it is incumbent on EHDC to plan for a future where the current population of ICE vehicles is largely (being) replaced by alternatively-fuelled vehicles and there is greater emphasis on public transport systems; which need to provide appropriate continuity of travel with minimal (if any) changes required, to locations of employment, education (at all levels), medical care (primary, secondary and tertiary), retail (in so far as it might be bricks and mortar based) and for hospitality, recreation and leisure activities. I appreciate that public transport is a Hampshire CC remit, but EHDC cannot ignore this particular elephant in its planning for the next 16 years.

However, to cater for increased demand for private transport in the current and near future, and depending on decisions made nationally and locally, for years beyond 2040, the provision of domestic parking should be calculated using a formula that respects the probable need for all occupants over the age of 17 to have a motor vehicle so they may access education and employment within a wide but commutable area.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Further comments to my previous

[REDACTED]

Fri 08/03/2024 16:55

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs

Further to my recent email.

I reluctantly accept the revised number of 667 proposed additional homes in Whitehill and Bordon, although I wish it were fewer. I am opposed to any increase in this number.

There are ample arguments for the bulk of new development to take place as now planned, in and around Alton, rather than in our town.

Firstly, Whitehill & Bordon is already experiencing rapid and dramatic growth in the number of homes being built as the "regeneration" continues into the 2030s, but is seeing no corresponding increase in infrastructure and services. It cannot accommodate more than the additional 667 proposed, and these will anyway be an additional burden on already struggling services and barely-there infrastructure.

There are many cogent reasons why the bulk of the new development (i.e., the C1,700 homes currently proposed) should take place in the Alton area.

- 1) Transport: Alton has a railway station and a bus hub serving many directions.
- 2) Medical services: Alton has many more GP surgeries and a Community Hospital.
- 3) Education: Alton has a Sixth Form College, and numerous infant, junior and secondary schools, many with potential for expansion.
- 4) Retail: Alton is well-served with many supermarkets, a thriving High Street, a gathering of DIY and homeware stores, and weekly and monthly markets.
- 5) Leisure: Alton has a large Leisure Centre with varied facilities.
- 6) Hospitality: Alton has a number of hotels offering accommodation and dining, a number of sit-down restaurants, and several public houses.

In contrast, Whitehill & Bordon has a litany of broken promises dating back to 2012.

Alton has by far and away the better infrastructure to support the proposed increase in homes. Whitehill & Bordon has:

- no railway station; poor bus services (e.g., no efficient rail-link services);
- two General Practices: that are not taking on new patients, and one is rated poor by the CQC, and a hospital that has been deliberately run-down (and a 'Health Hub' that might never be built and will be too small for the currently forecast population);

- a new secondary school that was too small when it was completed and other schools where parking is at best intrusive and at worst unlawful;
- a run-down and thoroughly depressing retail "centre" that isn't central (Forest Centre), two strips of dilapidated shops, and a Tesco supermarket (and a proposed retail development where the anchor client is in financial difficulties and reluctant to commit, meaning small retailers will not be attracted);
- a much-criticised new "Leisure Centre" that comprises only a swimming pool and a private gymnasium; and
- an almost universally-reviled "Shed", the name of which aptly describes its ambiance, and a range of take-away food outlets (and a "hospitality and entertainment" facility that may very well never see the light of day).

Finally: the Whitehill & Bordon Amenity Site is under threat of closure or reduced hours as part of Hampshire County Council's necessary cost-cutting measures, as might well be the Library and other County-funded facilities in the town (Alton's is not under threat), and the town's a small postal sorting office is already struggling to cope space-wise with the current increase in the number of addresses.

I give my permission for my comments to be entered verbatim into the questionnaire.

I would prefer my comments to remain anonymous.

Yours faithfully,
(signed)u



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 March 2024 17:14
To: [EHDC - Local Plan](#)
Subject: [REDACTED] FW: a rep

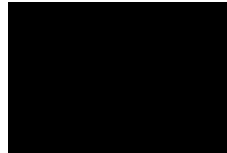
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 12:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: a rep

[REDACTED] I was handed a hard copy rep last night, which have typed out below.
Could this be processed please.
[REDACTED]

Site CFD2

Issues of Concern


1. Lack of doctors
2. Schools full
3. Lack of facilities
4. Flooding, which is getting worse, will worsen
5. Sewerage issues already a problem, system installed during the 1960s, hundreds of houses have been built since then
6. Public footpath, which is very well used. Wildlife; deer, bats, birds of prey
7. Site is not in Clanfield, it is in Catherington



Principal Planner, Planning Policy

East Hampshire District Council, Penns Place, Petersfield, GU31 4EX



 **East Hampshire**
DISTRICT COUNCIL
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Information in this message is confidential and may be privileged. It is intended solely for the person to whom it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender, and please delete the message from your system immediately.

**OUR
VALUES**



Hard copy letter received 1 March 2024.



23-2-2024

FTAO Local Plan and Development Committee regarding proposed development in Clanfield area

Site 2 Issue of concern

1. Lack of doctors
2. Schools full
3. Lack of facilities
4. Serious flooding, which is getting worse; causing major problems for pedestrians and traffic trying to access doctors, schools. Shops etc. If this land is built on, water will cascade down into lower White Dirt Lane, as it now does as the land follows its path up the hill, which is narrow.
5. Sewerage issues already a problem, system installed during the 1960s, hundreds of houses have been built since then
6. Public footpath, which is very well used and has easy access for the majority of the local community, the last place in this area with this; very important for everyone's physical and mental health, it is part of the 'local gap'.

Yours sincerely



Apologies for the presentation, laptop broken

(No subject)

[REDACTED]
Sun 03/03/2024 20:55

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I support alton Alton Town Council objections
[REDACTED]

Sent via BT Email App

Consultation points of concern ALT8 Neatham Manor Farm

The consultation documents are not supported by any evidence to demonstrate that the Neatham site is deliverable or viable in planning terms, or that it will not give rise to unacceptable impacts. The scale proposed, and taking into account the likely need for significant landscape and ecological mitigation (including SANG) suggests a very high density of development, which is inappropriate for this location. The consultation documentation is not supported by any evidence to suggest otherwise.

The proposal is not in line with government pledges to not build on greenfield sites, with priority on Brownfield first, nor is it in line with the policies included in the Levelling up and Regeneration Act. I have written direct to Government Parties about this will NIL response.

I am personally offended that the very picture you chose to include on the tiles on Commonplace, is of the land the plan is proposing to destroy.

In addition to this the Neatham Down site, is not in line with the many good policies laid out within the Local Plan document.

I ask you, what is the point of detailing such policies if there is no intent to follow them?

I see no evidence of any settlement capacity and intensification studies, across the whole district, if these are available, then please share.

This site was rejected back in 2019 for 600 homes, why now is it suddenly a good idea for inclusion in a local plan, for double the amount of homes, ecologically, nothing has changed!

There are a number of contributing factors leading to this site not being viable, which are detailed within this response. There is no evidence sufficient mitigation can be included, without significant disruption and impact on the health and wellbeing of existing Alton residents, nor any evidence to suggest that the site could be in alignment with your policies, even with mitigation..

I recognise that the plan is at an early (reg 18/options stage) but what (if any) approach has been taken to site selection, given it's proximity to the River Wey, one of very few Chalk streams, with natural springs, with the site on a bed of West Melbery Marble Chalk, which would result in unsustainable drainage, I should think limited research was undertaken prior to the sites inclusion. It is unclear why this site has been identified and chosen over other potential options in the county, and I am concerned that an evidence based approach to site selection has not been undertaken and would urge that the wider East Hampshire sites are reviewed and considered, over and above the Alton sites.

You will see from the many comments on Common Place opposed to this site, that the town of Alton is opposed to any more development on green field sites. We have raised awareness of this inclusion within a 4 week period, should we have been afforded more time, or found out about this proposal sooner, I would expect we would have many more objections. Not only are the people of Alton opposed to the destruction of these fields, **and any other green fields**, in and around Alton, as are Binsted Parish Council, Alton Town Council, Worldham Parish Council, CPRE, all highly regarded interested parties. We can't all be wrong!

I plead with you, not to put forward any other proposals in your next version of the plan, that include any green fields, or any areas out of line with your policies. Help us to protect our town and the protect the green fields that protect us and our families. You will have seen that the Town of Alton will stand united, and will continue to oppose!

Destruction of landscape (and ensuring impact to mental health)

The Neatham site, is directly adjacent to the SDNP, the positioning of this site will harm the rural character of the landscape, this is a gateway to the SDNP and will clearly be visible from the many public footpaths and rights of way within the national park.

The Neatham site has multiple agricultural fields, which are grade 3 classification under NPPF, and can be seen from Alton and surrounding areas. These are visible from the A31, Worldham approach, from the upper fields above Anstey, Windmill Hill, Holyborne and other areas of Alton, and bring beauty to the landscape. Providing changing scenery in the seasons and during periods of growth and harvest. The site identified is clearly green field site and destruction of the fields into a housing estate will have a negative impact on the landscape and negatively impact the mental health and wellbeing of residents and towns people;

I have to seriously question, given the location, being on the other side of the A31, which is a physical boundary to Alton, why these fields are not classified as Green Belt. The Green Belt classification was derived 50 years ago, surely this needs a review and re-classification, to ensure that the town does not start spilling into more and more fields, closing settlement boundaries and destroying biodiversity? This site CANNOT achieve a biodiversity net gain of 10%, and offsetting, would be quite frankly immoral.

The loss of farming to the estate impacts the biodiversity of the land, would provide a loss of food source for bees, as a result of reduction of healthy pollinators, and would impact water conservation. Construction would increase the risk of flooding from storm drainage, without adequate sustainable storm water drainage for removal.

In a climate emergency we need these fields, these fields work to protect us and absorb CO2! Now help us to protect the very fields that protect us, and protect the future of our children, and our children's children!

The destruction of the fields would impact our natural environment, and local animal health.

The Neatham fields are regular visitors of herds of Deer, Hare, multiple families of Red Kites, Buzzards, Skylarks, and bats, destruction of these fields and land development would lead to a decline in biodiversity, loss of natural habitat and food sources, negatively impacting the natural environment for these animals to thrive.

Noise generation during the construction works could also affect breeding behaviors of the animals, which would have a longer term impact on their population levels.

In addition to the above CPRE have identified the Neatham site as an NPPF valued landscape. This is land that should be protected, not destroyed for an obscene development.

When waking the beautiful fields, when the ESSO pipeline works were being undertaken, we were able to see the geology and have photographic evidence of West Melbery Marble Chalk, WHICH DOES NOT DRAIN.

The fields at Neatham Down, also have grey chalk, which is heavily fractured, making it unsuitable for building on.

We have photographic evidence, from when walking the fields, when the ESSO pipeline works were being undertaken, that clearly evidence this. Which I can share with you in due course.

There are evidenced spring lines on this landscape which run directly into the River Wey, which is one of very few chalk streams of environmental significance, as much so as the rainforests, and something that should be protected. The proposal of this site, would not only have a negative impact on this, it is against recent legislation to protect the chalk streams!

The River Wey is constantly flooded, and that is without the run off surface water of 1250 houses, on a site with UNSUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE!

You may not be aware that I work in construction, from this I would raise the point that the fields gradient would not achieve the required angles for access roads, and further more, would result in thousands of muck aways of West Melbery Marble Chalk, and take away our aquifers.

Further more, on my beautiful walks of the Downs I have witnessed the growth of many cornfield weeds, of which I also have many many photographs.

Lets not forget the photos of the animals on this landscape, Deer, Bats, Badgers, Skylarks, stoats, Weasels, Foxes, Shrews, and many field nesting birds.

The site is adjacent to Monkwood, which is a site of ancient Woodland, again contravening the very policies laid out within the local plan.

Loss of the Dark Night Skies

We have learnt a great deal over the last 4 weeks, we have been particularly taken by the research on the Dark Night Skies, and how they help us to find our place in the universe. This month SDNP celebrated these very dark skies, Building on Neatham would heavily impact on the ability of Altonians to appreciate the Dark Night Skies, and I ask you why don't we have a right to protect our Dark Night Skies, as the National park does. We want our children to appreciate star gazing, and we don't want to use our cars to travel to the SDNP to appreciate them!

Sewage

Alton Sewage treatment works, not only deals with Alton, it also deals with Medstead and Four Marks. Already the sewage works is over capacity, without any additional housing, which is resulting in untreated sewage being discharged, direct into the River Wey, a chalk stream no less, which should be protected. Unacceptable!

Traffic

The construction and addition of a development of this scale would increase traffic and pollution, leading to more congestion and emissions which will have a negative health impact on existing residents.

Whilst the information provides information on carbon reduction for the homes, it does not adequately address the addition of carbon emissions, nor embodied carbon during the proposed 10-15 year construction period.

The impact of construction deliveries and much aways, will ensure heavy duty transportation of materials, along with extensive muck away requirements, owing to the contours of the land, which will drastically increase CO2 Emissions during the construction works.

Have calculations been undertaken to establish the carbon emissions during construction works, and what offset the renewables will have? Surely the construction carbon must be taken into account

when looking at carbon neutrality. The additional emissions, along with the reduction of plants to absorb the emissions will have a negative health impact on the Alton and surrounding residents.

The recent traffic light additions in Alton, along with SSE works along Mill lane have already demonstrated an issue with traffic in the town, during construction works, with the town heavily congested. The construction of 1000+ homes will only add to this traffic issues. Alton does not have sufficient infrastructure to cope with hundreds of thousands of delivery lorries, or indeed additional diversions to cope with heavy construction traffic.

The positioning and proposed access to the Neatham site would heavily impact one of the main infrastructure vehicular spines for the town, with works access creating pinch points and extended traffic and travel disruption in, around and out of Alton. This coupled with inevitable road closures for utility reinforcements to support the development will be unbearable for the existing residents and negatively impact the mental health and wellbeing of the community.

Accessibility

The site is 2 miles away from the town centre, providing limited accessibility to services which inevitably will lead to residents using their cars as a mode of transport for school runs, shopping and access to leisure facilities.

The plans rely on improvements to the existing bridge and pathway over the A31. Even with this path way, the extended distance from local services, 2 miles to the town, makes this development widely inaccessible, from the top of the site, never mind the bottom of the site by Monkwood! I fail to see how paths through fields are deemed to demonstrate accessibility.

The development is cut off by the A31 and isolated from the wider town, which will lead to any potential new residents being reliant on private cars for access, which is unacceptable.

The national planning policy makes it clear that developments MUST reduce reliance on private cars and be accessible by non-car modes, there is no evidence within the consultation to demonstrate that this can be achieved on the proposed Neatham development.

Utilities

There is currently insufficient infrastructure to provide utilities to the site. This has already been demonstrated with the recent SSE works, providing additional infrastructure from the Mill lane sub-station, which has incurred significant travel and transport delays to the area. The site would require power, water, foul and surface water drainage, which would require major re-enforcement works, and inevitably result in further disruption to residents, negatively impacting the mental health of those already living in Alton. The residents have already suffered multiple disruption, over the last 2 years, the provision of such an expansive development, would cause unmanageable disruption to the town and residents, which will also impact local businesses as it will deter external visitors to the town.

We need investment into our town and our high street, we want people to visit us and see the beauty of our town and fields.

Health care

I note the development papers reference an expansion to the local health care centre at Chawton, which we commend. We also note that no such expansion is detailed within the proposed plan for the Wilson Practice.

The health provision and accessibility in Alton is already at breaking point, with extended wait times for appointments. The addition of a potential 4800 people to the area, would negatively impact the town, health and wellbeing of existing residents and further reduction of availability of accessible health care.

The NHS has advised that the level of development is unsustainable for local primary care, with the Wilson practice advising that they are already oversubscribed by 2,554 patients back in October 2022!

There has already been an increase in residential dwelling in the town, with no addition of healthcare provisions, the scale of this development would provide insufficient provision to cope with the further expanded population. With current levels already inadequate to provide services to Alton residents.

In addition to standard health care, we already have issues with the capacity of dentists in Alton, with people unable to receive treatment on the NHS with lengthy waiting lists. Additional housing developments of this scale will create longer waiting lists and further inadequate provision of dental health services.

Education and Schools

I note there is a potential for additional school provision, this does not note, if this is early years, primary years and senior school provision. I also note that this won't be provided until 6 years in! Schools in Alton are already at full capacity for certain school years. The addition of 1200 houses, could potentially require provision for 2400 children. I would anticipate that the local secondary schools as well as any additional primary provision would be stretched, not just for an interim period but also longer term, which could negatively impact the educational needs of our younger generation.

Further considerations around current inadequate SEN provision.

Crime and Policing

The addition of the development, has the potential for an increase in crime and antisocial behaviors in Alton. The current level of policing is inadequate to deal with additional crime, with Alton's police station diminished.

Recent Housing Developments

Alton has been subjected to a large number of housing developments, in recent years, surely Alton has reached its quota. Why aren't EHDC looking outside of Alton to reach their new local development plan. The addition of these housing developments, has not provided any additional infrastructure, schooling, medical, or dental provision, which has contributed to over subscription at the local practices, with people unable to get access to NHS dental services in the area. Additional development will further compound the already struggling services.

Additional Developments as follows:

Ackender Hill – 156 properties

Rivermead gardens 107 properties

Hop field Place – 180 properties

Brewery development 220 properties

Alexandra Place – 125 properties

Cadnam Farm – 225 properties

The local plan includes that there are 700 already approved developments scheduled for completion, let that be enough until the council and county invests in appropriate infrastructure.

Closing notes

The proposed plan, appears to be a reaction to the successful campaign to stop the Chawton Development. The concerns over Neatham development are the same of those of Chawton, with further likelihood of risk and disruption to the residents of Alton, owing to the locality of the development, making it also an unviable solution.

There are 4 active campaigns in Alton to stop large scale developments, of which all parties are passionate about stopping destruction of beautiful landscape.

Alton has had its fair share of residential development, without the required investment into healthcare, schools, infrastructure. We do not need further long term disruption, destruction of natural landscape, and lack of consideration for existing residents.

The fact that we have so much of our county within South Downs National Park is putting absolute pressure on Building on unsuitable green spaces. I am passionate about the land that works so hard to protect us, these developments on green fields, CAN NOT achieve a biodiversity net gain of 10%, offsetting is quite frankly immoral! I am wondering if we can focus on the rural exemption sites both in and out the SDNP as a starter for 10 on Brownfield sites, but also want the opportunity to review the Brownfield sites outside of these areas, and also review the 189 sites of less than 50 houses, detailed in the land availability assessment.

In addition to this, we strongly believe that the current development embargo MUST be reviewed in the SNDP. There are surely areas of brownfield, within the park boundaries, which would be more fitting to development, over and above destruction of green fields. Alton should not be expected to continue the barrage of houses, owing to narrowly missing inclusion in the national park boundary.

Neatham Down, to which I strongly object, is wholly unsuitable, it does not align with the policies detailed within the local plan document.

Neatham Down is within the Binsted Parish, which is not included within Tier 1 area. Binsted currently has a population of 1900 people, the proposed Neatham site would more than double the current population, without the necessary infrastructure to support it, and a lack of infrastructure in Alton to support it.

There is absolutely no infrastructure to this site, nor is there sufficient infrastructure in the town of Alton, Medical centres, were already oversubscribed by 2554 patients back in 2022.

The way these housing targets are proposed is absolutely appalling, East Hampshire is lucky to be made up of 55% South Downs National Park, which have beautiful dark skies, which would be heavily impacted with a development on Neatham Down. I am wondering if we could focus on the smaller

sites, which wouldn't impact biodiversity and share the housing load across the **whole** of East Hampshire, rather than focussing on a tiered approach.

I would be very interested to discuss this further with you, and any other interested parties, when time permits, to see what we can further do collectively on the allocations, to protect the beautiful green spaces across East Hampshire.

Response regarding Bordon local plan

[REDACTED]
Fri 01/03/2024 22:48

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Hello

My name is [REDACTED] residing at [REDACTED].

I am a resident of whitehill and Bordon. Regarding the consultation around the Bordon local plan and the proposed building of 677 homes, I support the proposed building of 677 homes but no more, current and proposed local infrastructure is already stretched to its limits.


The addition of further large scale builds would ruin what is a beautiful area.

Please add my response to the consultation count, supporting the building of 677 homes but no more.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

 - Alton Neighbourhood plan
Mon 04/03/2024 19:19

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I am writing to object to the proposed housing developments in Alton and the surrounding area and in particular Holybourne. This area has already seen a huge amount of development in recent years putting a considerable strain on all services schools, doctors etc and large increases in traffic on already very congested roads, not to mention irreparable damage to the environment. This area can simple not sustain any more large scale developments especially on green field sites that once built on are lost for ever. This part of Hampshire has already taken more than it's fair share of New developments and doesn't have the infrastructure to take more. Please reconsider these ludicrous proposals.

Regards

Objection to Neatham Downs Development

Fri 08/03/2024 18:15

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

I would like to register my formal objection to the proposed development of Netham Downs, and the move of Alton to a Tire One development location.

My objections echo thousands of local residents, concerned for the future of our rural community, with, and not limited to concerns on:

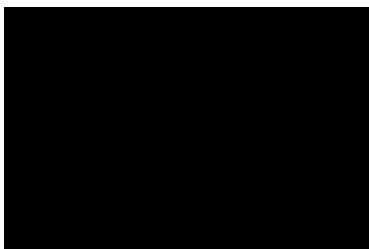
- Too many houses, in the wrong place, with no infrastructure, and environmental destruction.
- Excessive homes proposed: +22% above EHDC's required allocation of 9,082 homes by 2040.
- Building on productive farmland is against the government's 'Brownfield First' policy.
- Proposals would irrevocably change the rural nature of the local area.
- Would have a negative impact on nature & biodiversity, including River Wey & chalk aquifer.
- Further sites yet to be proposed from SDNP Local Plan, but EHDC Plan proposals alone would MORE THAN DOUBLE our parish population.
- Puts unsustainable pressure on local infrastructure (roads, water supply, sewage, healthcare). ARE YOU AWARE? To book a doctor's appointment since Bentley Surgery was closed and we where all migrated to the Wilson Practice and surrounding areas, you now have to set an alarm for 6:30 AM to enter an eConsult. These now close at 8 am if they are full. Thats it. no phone call, just a 90-minute window to do it online. How on EARTH can you add more to this chaos of underserved infrastructure?
- A beautiful landscape - rolling hills, open fields, wildlife (bats, hares, herds of deer, and several 'Red List' bird species: e.g. skylarks, kites, buzzards) will be destroyed by sprawl and traffic.
- The site is designated a 'Valued Landscape': large-scale development is normally not allowed.
- Building here conflicts with Policy NBE 13 'Protection of Natural Resources' & 'Dark Skies'.
- 1 ALT8 Neatham Down, HOP1 Holt Pound and ALT7 Lynch Hill
- 2 ([h=ps://binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Binsted-Parish-PrioriLes-Statement-vFinal2023.pdf](https://binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Binsted-Parish-PrioriLes-Statement-vFinal2023.pdf)).
- 'Strategic Site': in planning parlance this means developing a new settlement of 1,000+ homes, even in locations (countryside) where rules would normally

prevent development.

- The site promoter wants to develop 1,250 houses. The site was already assessed and rejected for a smaller development of 650 houses.
- The site is disconnected from Alton: even with A31 bridging, it is difficult to integrate with Alton.
- Access constraints: walk/cycle across A31 footbridge; vehicles via Lynch Hill site.
- High car-dependence: parts of site 30 minute walk (2km) from Alton High Street. Significant increases in traffic in our parish, Alton, key junctions and on the A31, as well as the impact during construction.
- No transport impact/capacity work has been undertaken so far.
- Further pressures on vital services such as GP appointments- EHDC is not responsible for and has no direct powers to ensure that services such as this are increased to meet the increased population from the development they are proposing.
- Not climate resilient - site is substantially affected by areas of groundwater flood risk.
- Site only 30m from Northern Wey - development will worsen local flooding.
- Development could 'kill' the Northern Wey chalk stream (reduce chalk aquifer recharge & increase demand for water).
- Inadequate sewage treatment capacity: Alton STWs regularly discharge untreated sewage.
- Poor location for affordable housing. No local services & geology means building expensive
- Building beyond A31 creates creep into the countryside & likely future fusion with Holybourne.
- 'CIL island' – A proportion of the financial contributions by developers (Community Infrastructure Levies) would normally go to the parish in the development is being built in. EHDC are proposing a 'CIL Island' where this would not automatically apply. CIL enables Binsted Parish Council to fund a wide variety of community assets and projects.
- Possible new primary school at Neatham Down – a threat to Binsted school? Our school is the foundation of our village and our community, servicing children from a wide catchment area in a loving nurturing environment. What will happen to our school if the development goes ahead?

I urge you to listen to the voices of the community and reject this proposal to move Alton forward with such vast unplanned and unsustainable development,

Regards,



I wish to support Alton Town Council's objections to the Draft Local Plan

[REDACTED]
Fri 08/03/2024 15:31

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Hello

I support Alton Town Council's objections to the Draft Local Plan.

Yours faithfully
[REDACTED]

Objection to Draft Site Allocation BWH1 within East Hampshire Local Plan 2021-2040

Mon 04/03/2024 10:24

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to object to the proposed allocation of sites for development in Bentworth and in particular to the draft Site Allocation BWH1.

I have lived at [REDACTED] for most of the last 10 years.

I do not think the proposals are reasonable given the allocations in Bentworth as they do not comply with the requirement to respect the setting, form and character of the settlement' and certainly do not provide good accessibility to local services and facilities.

In respect of the latter, it is acknowledged that Bentworth is a Tier 5 settlement and has no access to reasonable transport facilities or any prospect of that changing.

Such developments would have a negative effect on the overall character of the village whilst providing no commensurate benefit.

It is very clear that the village is vehemently against such development as is evidenced by the approx 65 objections to the development of the Glebe Fields site when a proposal was recently submitted (even though this was I am sure deliberately submitted during the Christmas period to try to minimise response levels).

I would respectfully ask that the strength of that objection is taken into consideration with respect of this Draft Site Allocation proposal as many people will not be sufficient familiar with these complex processes to realise there is another process going on so soon after the last one but it is safe to say their objections would be similarly strong.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Local plan - objection

[REDACTED]

Wed 28/02/2024 14:37

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Having thoroughly looked at and read the proposed local plan I strongly object to all of the proposals except for one - the extension of Chawton Park surgery.

The plans show gross over development for the Alton area - especially compared to Petersfield where there is none. Why is Petersfield exempt from more housing?

Alton already does not have sufficient infrastructure - it is extremely difficult to get a doctor's appointment and there is absolutely no hope of newcomers getting on a dentist's list. The schools are full and the High Street is full of coffee shops, beauty salons, estate agents and empty shops - there is nowhere like a department store and most people have to shop out of town. The roads are in a dreadful state which will not improve with extra traffic.

There is no way Alton can accommodate a further 1150 homes.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

[REDACTED] - BWH1 - Top Field, Land Adjacent to Glebe Field, Bentworth & BWH2 Land at the corner of Church Field Bentworth - OBJECTION

Mon 04/03/2024 16:16

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir or Madam,

This representation raises an objection to the Draft Site Allocation **BWH1 - "Top Field", Land Adjacent to Glebe Field, Bentworth and BWH2, Land at the corner of Church Field**. The main reason being that the allocations goes against the Vision and Spatial Strategy objectives which seeks to allocate growth in upper tier settlements 1-3. The strategy is based on the concept of 'living locally' by delivering '20-minute neighbourhoods', taking into account the level of services, facilities and accessibility each settlement has. This will help ensure that the draft Local Plan responds to the Climate Emergency the Council has declared, reducing the reliance of the private car wherever possible.

Bentworth is a Tier 5 settlement which is a remote location with no regular to access to public transport. There are also no opportunities identified to improve the situation either.

The Council acknowledge that there is 'generally less potential for enabling residents to access services or facilities within a reasonable walking or cycling distance in settlements such as Bentworth or Medstead'. Whereas other areas such as Bentley in the North or larger settlements such as Alton do have such opportunities for this. Four Marks is a Tier 3 settlement also in the North area of the district and is important as provides facilities and services for the wider rural area and villages such as Bentworth. It is also relatively unconstrained.

The Sites allocated in Bentworth are of the lowest ranking in terms of suitability and accessibility, it is not considered a sustainable location for growth.

The numbers of housing attributed to Bentworth should also be revised, reduced and reconsidered with at least 5 homes removed from their apportioned figures. A reduction of 5-10 dwellings in Bentworth can be re-accommodated in more sustainable and accessible locations identified in the Local Plan, that have far less constraints. Focus in areas such as Bentworth should be on supporting the farming community which is vital to our local economy and other small rural or leisure businesses which often in turn provide opportunities for biodiversity net gain and landscape enhancements.

The Bentworth allocations do not reflect the general approach of 'respecting the setting, form and character of the settlement' nor do they 'ensure good accessibility to local services and facilities'. A more restrictive approach to growth should be applied to the settlement, which is more proportionate to its original size. Despite Bentworth being one of the least sustainable forms of settlement, it is proposed to provide 10 homes. This figure is not supported, given the existing allocation has failed to come forward during the current plan period and the proposed new allocation is not considered suitable for new housing delivery.

The Bentworth Conservation Area appraisal (1981) acknowledges that the form of the land and features in the village would suggest that the area has been continuously farmed since the medieval period. This has led to 'a dispersed development of hamlets, farmsteads and associated cottages, particularly in the vicinity of the early medieval building of St Mary's Church and Hall Farm'. This important history and character of the village has been preserved and clearly identifiable until the modern day.

Most of the buildings within the Conservation Area are spread at intervals along the lane through the village; some are set close up to the road but others are set back from the road in large private verdant grounds.

The Bentworth Conservation Area appraisal highlights that 'the flat, wide-open spaces in the village are of particular importance to the setting of the Conservation Area'. This is an important consideration when assessing the site's suitability and how the "Top Field" lying to the south of the Glebe Fields contributes to the setting of the wider Conservation Area. The draft allocation has failed to acknowledge this special quality of the village or the contribution the field currently makes to its setting or sense of arrival.

Top Field forms part of a patchwork of fields surrounding the Grade II* Church. This is also not helped by the fact that the site is quite open along Station Road and very visible, with only overgrown brambles along the frontage preventing some views. The site also sits higher than Station Road and is more open in character along the southern and eastern corner of the site making it more exposed and sensitive to change. This is more

exacerbated by the presence of the public right of way along the southern boundary leading to the church. This is a tarmacked route despite being adjacent farmland and is frequently used by local residents.

The landscape sensitivities are also not fully understood or evidenced. There is a network of public rights of way within the village, including a number located in the west and northwest, in addition to the immediate footpath to the south of the draft allocation.

The draft allocation refers to the Glebe Fields development to the north which forms part of an isolated pocket of housing. However, this small area of the settlement boundary is separated from the rest of the series of hamlets that make-up Bentworth. Mulberry House and its associated grounds to the south was purposely kept out of the settlement boundary given it has countryside characteristics, much like the proposed allocated site. We would also like to state that in landscape terms, this densely populated pocket is an anomaly to the rest of this dispersed area and reflects a period of time when the housing was built. The design did include a series of green spaces within it but the layout to some extent turns its back on the surrounding countryside. Both Glebe Fields and Glebe Close has not positively contributed to the make-up of the series of hamlets Bentworth is made from. To create a further regimented line of dwellings beyond this to the south would further reinforce how it is out of keeping with the strong village identity Bentworth has and would have a detrimental impact on the sense of arrival to the village core. The village celebrates the eclectic mix of period housing it has, set within often large spacious leafy grounds. This draft allocation will lead to a modern form of development due to its size and location and would do nothing to reinforce this special character or settlement pattern identified.

Development in this sensitive location would erode the special character of the village which is dispersed by farmland. The land and adjoining interconnecting field is classified as Grade 3 agricultural land, which is a finite resource. This loss of agricultural land is not justified given the lack of public benefits identified.

The site is also not considered a sustainable location. Bentworth is a rural settlement, with no shops, limited (and decreasing) bus service, no mains gas or wastewater connection, poor broadband service, very limited employment opportunities, and surrounded by narrow minor roads. There is only a school, church and village hall and nothing else apart from rural public footpaths and a cricket pitch. There are no health facilities nearby and residents would have to rely on the private car to access shops or services. This type of development would be better suited to a village that is larger in scale to support some proportionate growth in the longer-term.


The proposed allocated sites are also likely to have a negative impact on protected species and will be unable to deliver biodiversity net gain or ecological enhancements on site due to its constrained make-up and size.

In line with the supporting Evidence Base of the Accessibility Study and overall sustainability credentials, alongside both heritage and landscape impacts identified, the site BWH1 - "Top Field", Land Adjacent to Glebe Field, Bentworth should be removed from the list of allocated sites within the Draft Plan, together with the site BHW2, Land at the corner of Church Field.

Yours faithfully,





 - Bordon Whitehill plans
Wed 06/03/2024 20:23

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Hi,

What is happening with the chase hospital. Surely it's better and cheaper to maintain than rebuild

How are the community's going to have drs and access to medical / dentists / care as it seems that people from bordon have been attending our already unable to get an appointment doctors in liss. You can't build and not offer the overload of people with access to vital things all communities need but expect all neighbouring residents to suffer as the overspill is taking up amenities where they live.

You need to build, okay , but taking away the chase , have you got money to rebuild. Isn't a carbon footprint about recycling, Upcycling and making use and what is there and fixing things / it

Miney is tight n t isn't fair to make communities suffer ie libraries, recycling centres etc and those already struggling having to pay higher parking.....

Sent from iPhone

Local Plan Consultation

[Redacted]

Sun 03/03/2024 22:03

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

To whom it may concern,

I would like the local plan to protect the strategic gap between Wivelrod and Jennie Green Lane Medstead, the lane provides a quiet place to ride with wonderful views across the countryside that need to be protected for future generations.

Kind Regards,

[Redacted]

East Hants Draft Local Plan

Fri 01/03/2024 15:56

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in relation to the East Hants Draft Local Plan (LP), and in particular the proposal for development in Holt Pound, to express the depth and strength of my feeling against this proposal.

This is not an appropriate site for development and the inclusion of the suggested development is a marked diversion from East Hants previous assessment of the site in 2018 which stated 'Residential development (Holt Pound) would have an adverse impact on the rural character of the area, and is disproportionate in size to the existing settlement.' I counted 67 established houses in Holt Pound. If you consider that Holt Pound has already recently had to adjust to the construction of 10 houses at the junction of Fullers Road and the A325, the suggestion of further construction of 19 houses, or up to 50 according to the developer's website (<https://www.falcondevelopments.co.uk>), such a proposal as HOP1b in the LP is untenable.



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Holt Pound
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Local Plan Allocation

Affordai

proposal for up to 60
activities is being
Surrey heath Local
ation submission.

A proposal for up to 50 homes is being
promoted within the draft East Hampshire Local
plan and a pre-application will shortly be
submitted in support of the scheme.

The development is
'exception' site for 2
residents locally conn
unable to afford c

If the plan is approved, the current 10 houses currently under construction, plus 19 under the LP, would lead to a 43% increase in houses in Holt pound since 2023. If the developer has their way, and 50 houses were built, this would mean Holt Pound would expand by 90% since 2023.

This is, indeed, disproportionate development by any standard, even at the lowest end of proposals. The effect on the area would be dramatic and would suburbanise a small linear hamlet into a housing estate.

Also, suggested development at Holt Pound goes against LP own policy S2.3. Holt pound is a linear settlement. Previous planning in the area has been restricted to linear development in order to 'respect the setting, form and character of the settlement'. The suggested development involves significant infilling which is at odds with policy. The suggested infilling is also at odds with the S2.3 policy of 'avoiding actual or perceived coalescence of settlements', as it would appear to effectively coalesce Holt Pound with Rowledge. Overall, the development proposal for Holt Pound, therefore, goes against the LP Objective A, A1, a) '...ensuring this (housing) is of the right size, type and tenure, and is in the right location.'

Additionally, Holt Pound is identified as a Tier 3 settlement. This is inappropriate, as the number of facilities (a pub and a service garage) is small, narrow in function and, therefore, not an example of an accessible location. Nor is it a focal point for surrounding villages, as it has little to offer. Add in the limited access to public transport, and it is clear that Holt Pound has been mis-identified as a Tier 3 settlement. In comparison with the settlements in other tiers, Holt Pound would compare more with the Tier 5 settlements, rather than Tier 3.

Having studied the methodology and procedure used to re-tier the settlements in East Hants I find it misleading and flawed. The Local Settlement Area Accessibility Tool (LSAAT) has been much relied upon by East Hants for this work, but it lacks the granularity and finesse required to make such important decisions. The accessibility figures that the LSAAT produced for Holt pound would be entirely different if a more appropriate assessment hexagon were selected. Not only that, but the maps used by East Hants do not reflect the reality of village boundaries nor are they labelled correctly, which gives a distorted and wrong picture of the settlement.

Map 15: Holt Pound



As can be seen from the above map, the proposed development would infill Holt Pound into a housing estate, which is against the character and form of the area, and is disproportionate to its size. The LSAAT accessibility score for Holt Pound is flawed, and, therefore, the reliance on it for the re-tier also flawed.

The HOP1 (below) shows a map that is once again incorrect and misleading. That aside, it mentions that several issues that suggest the site is inappropriate. For instance, it acknowledges adverse landscape and visual impacts, which the proposal suggests could be ameliorated by cramming the development into the South West corner of the site. In other words, it's inappropriate to build here due to the impact it would have, but we'll just try and hide it away a bit. Unacceptable.

The proposal says that it is important to avoid the perception of suburbanisation. I fail to see how this development would be anything but suburbanisation, never mind the perception of it, and is again at odds with the S2.3 policy of 'avoiding actual or perceived coalescence of settlements'. Infilling in attempt to hide this suburbanisation is unacceptable.

Biodiversity is mentioned, and since the LP was drafted there is now a legal requirement under the Town and Country Planning Act to increase net biodiversity or habitat by 10% on new building projects, such as this proposal, from 2 April 2024. This site is a major wildlife corridor, and has become even more important following the development of the site at the junction of Fullers Road with the A325, which was a well-developed wood and reserve of wildlife. Preservation of existing habitats such as the well-developed hedgerows and trees around this site is locally essential, due the previous losses.

I could go on further, but I feel my points have been made. This site is unsuitable for development.

HOP1 – Land north of Fullers Road, Holt Pound

LAA Reference	BIN-005
Site Size (Ha)	3.8 ha
Existing Use	Agricultural
Proposed Future Use	Housing
Proposed Number of Homes	19



Site Description

The site lies to the north and east of residential areas in Holt Pound. A loose-knit collection of larger buildings, including some in equestrian use, are located to the north of the site. The eastern boundary follows a watercourse, whilst a public right of way runs along the northern boundary, connecting Fullers Road to Wrecclesham Hill.

The site is irregularly shaped and largely comprises greenfield pasture, although it is bisected in the east by an access track that connects the site to Fullers Road and Wrecclesham Hill. The land is relatively flat, but slopes gently, rising from the south-east to the north-west. There are mature trees and hedgerows on the site boundaries and along the course of the access track. Housing in the site's environs is predominantly of detached houses that are set back from the road on relatively large (but narrow) rectilinear plots. Residential properties immediately to the north of the site are larger, isolated dwellings.

HOP1 – Land north of Fullers Road, Molt Pound

List of constraints & opportunities

- **Biodiversity:** recreational impacts on the Wealden Heaths European SPA & SAC sites would need to be appropriately mitigated.
- **Flood risks:** small parts of the site are susceptible to surface water flooding. These flood risk areas are in southern and eastern parts of the site, notably associated with the adjoining watercourse.
- **Landscape:** there is potential for adverse landscape and visual impacts including on the setting and context for the South Downs National Park.
- **Green infrastructure:** mature field boundaries and trees are important characteristics of the site, helping it to integrate with the wider landscape.
- **Access:** connection to the local road network could be achieved via the existing access track to Fullers Road. The access track and public right of way to Wrecclesham Hill is unlikely to be suitable as a principal access route for motor vehicles.
- **Access:** potential to connect the site to the public right of way, improving permeability for walking and cycling modes and enabling and active and healthy lifestyles.
- **Residential amenity:** due to the proximity of adjoining dwellings to the south and west, there is the potential for adverse impacts on the amenity of existing housing on Fullers Road and the A325.
- **Built heritage:** no designated constraints to development.

Summary of Reasons for Inclusion

The site is relatively well-located for accessing local facilities and services in Rowledge and Wrecclesham. The site scores above average in the Local Planning Authority's Accessibility Study. Impacts on environmental constraints (flood risks, green infrastructure) could be avoided or mitigated by appropriate design and layout. Landscape concerns could be addressed through keeping northern and eastern areas free of development, whilst providing a built form that is in-keeping with residential development along Fullers Road and the A325. It would be important to avoid the perception of sub-urbanisation. Mature trees and hedgerows could be maintained and augmented to achieve a net gain in biodiversity. The potential impacts due to recreational disturbance on the Wealden Heaths Phase I SPA could be mitigated without the on-site provision of suitable alternative natural greenspace, which would be impractical to deliver. The dimensions of the site facilitate an east-west layout for development, which would support passive design principles and the installation of solar panels for meeting the design requirements associated with the climate emergency.

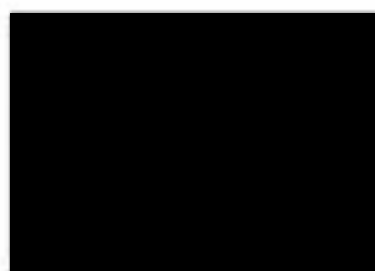
Infrastructure Requirements

- **Education:** No specific requirements identified at this stage. However, developer contributions (e.g. by a s.106 contribution) may be required towards education infrastructure within the Waverley Borough Council area, if identified through on-going 'duty to co-operate' discussions.
- **Health:** Developer contributions (e.g. by a s.106 contribution) may be required towards improvements at Rowlands Castle Surgery, to provide additional capacity. However, developer contributions may instead be required towards health infrastructure within the Waverley Borough Council area, if identified through on-going 'duty to co-operate' discussions.

Therefore, under East Hants own policy, it's own previous assessment, and the actuality of the lack of accessibility, sustainability, facilities and suitability of the HOP1b site, requires that this site be removed from the draft LP.

I hope you can support my request and my objection to the draft LP, and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours faithfully



28 February 2024

Objection to the proposed residential allocations RLC2 in the draft East Hampshire Local Plan 2021-2040.

INTRODUCTION

The promotion by the Local Planning Authority of these residential allocations is not new.

In 2004, these sites were shown by the Local Planning Authority as "reserve site - land at Deerleap" and were considered by the Inspector who reported on the then emerging Local Plan.

He said - "Development of this land as proposed would fly in the face of the relevant legislation that is designed to protect these areas. It should not be countenanced."

He added - "The deletion of this site from table H2 means that alternative land should be sought ..."

For convenience, I refer you to the relevant paragraphs from his 2004 report - paragraphs 5.4.35 - 5.4.43 for the full reasons for his decision.

20 YEARS ON

The current draft review of the Local Plan promotes these sites again.

The obvious question to be asked - "What has changed in this 20 year period?"

The Conservation Area status remains the same.

The Scheduled Ancient Monument remains the same.

To my knowledge there has been no new legislation leading to a different view to be taken from that in 2004.

So what has led to the Local Planning Authority to promote these sites again?

The answer must be the requirement to allocate land for 145 dwellings in Rowlands Castle led them to the conclusion that these sites need to be promoted to satisfy the statutory requirement to provide this number of units.

Regarding 145 dwellings - I have no evidence to challenge that number- therefore I base my views tested against that number.

The current allocations in the draft plan

RLC1 - 5 dwellings - density - 8.3 dwellings/ha or 3.4/acre

RLC2 - 8 dwellings - density - 8.0 dwellings/ha or 3/acre

RLC3 - 51 dwellings - density - 18.9 dwellings/ha or 7.8/acre

RLC4 - 81 dwellings - density - 9.6/acre

Sites RLC1 and RLC2 total 13 dwellings which is 8.8% of the total allocation

NO NEED FOR THESE ALLOCATIONS

I believe that 13 dwellings can be found in Rowlands Castle in an alternative way to that currently shown.

Rowlands Castle has 1,400 households. A glance at the Ordnance Survey of the village shows that there are many dwellings in large curtilages - some of which would have the potential for infilling as a "windfall site".

Sites RCL3 and RCL4 have density ranges of 7.8/acre and 9.6/acre.

By most modern standards in built up areas, with a range of types of units, these figures could be adjusted to reflect marginally increased numbers to also cater for any shortfall by the deletion of RCL1 and RCL2. This would still reflect the needs for a range of types of housing - be they single units or 2/3/4 units. The size of these sites allow that flexibility.

Please remember we are only talking about 13 dwellings - a number, I submit, could be found without the need to build on these two allocations.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEMANDS AGAINST RCL1 AND RCL2

I do commend the Local Planning Authority in their lists of constraints and summary reasons for inclusions of these 2 allocations in the Draft Plan.

They have fairly set out the key issues.

However, I am concerned that the demands of the Local Planning Authority as to their "infrastructure requirements" is set against only 13 dwellings.

As currently shown, it cannot be right that the Local Planning Authority can make bland statements of their demands without any plans or costs.

I turn to each of them as shown in the Draft Plan.

Health - what "additional capacity" is to be provided? Without knowing what they are how can contributions be quantified for each unit?

Access - There will be a new access onto Deerleap Lane and, no doubt, on-site provision for pedestrians and cyclists - these are a proper charge on on-site costs down to the developer. However, as drafted - "Developer (i.e. 13 dwellings) contributions towards improved traffic management within the village and towards accessibility and signage at Rowlands Castle Railway Station will also be required." What traffic management measures? What additional accessibility? What new signage? Where are the plans and costings for this?

Plus, surely local people should be canvassed if all the Local Planning Authority wants is fair and reasonable?

Drainage- It states :- "Appropriate infrastructure will be required to mitigate flood risks". What are they? Have they been costed? Are they attainable?

In addition: - "cumulative pressures of development on local infrastructure will be dealt with via CIL."

To me that indicates the Local Planning expects the whole of these costs to be paid for by the developers of these two sites - with no other funding.

Again, I emphasise. Only 13 dwellings are expected to pay all these uncoded items.

With respect, how does anyone know, without plans and costings, whether funding these requirements are fair and reasonable on 13 dwellings?

CONCLUSIONS

I do not challenge the need for 140 dwellings. The need for these can be obtained without RCL1 and RCL2 for all the reasons set out above.

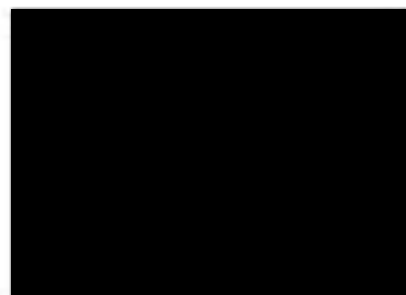
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Please delete these allocations.

Yours sincerely A



29 FEB 2024



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Please delete these allocations.

Yours sincerely



(as a resident) - Local plan consultation feedback

Wed 06/03/2024 18:44

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear East Hampshire District Council,

I am responding to the Local Plan 2021-2040 Consultation as a resident.

I recognise the frustrating challenge that East Hampshire District Council has in that it cannot include the part of the district that falls within the South Down National Park within its local plan. This includes Petersfield. This leaves Alton and Whitehill & Bordon as the only two 'towns' in the Local Plan.

I recognise that home housing increases create extra economic activity, creating jobs locally and supporting local businesses. Development can generate S106 that can be invested into the local area. I would not want to see the development and regeneration of the new Town Centre area stagnate.

I also recognise that the Planning Inspectorate is unlikely to sign off a plan that would propose housing for the Alton area, Four Marks, Southern Parishes and other villages, without including Whitehill & Bordon.

This plan proposes 667 homes to be delivered by 2040 (noting this in addition to the 2400 homes given planning permission of which about 1900 have yet to be built and any 'windfall site' e.g. a random planning application approved.)

In contrast, the Alton area is now proposed to take 1700 extra homes - just over two-and-a-half times as many as Whitehill & Bordon. I feel this is justified, based on their level of facilities and infrastructure. I also note 1073 proposed to go elsewhere in the district.

Therefore, Whitehill & Bordon is proposed to take 667 out of the 3440 total, which is 19.4%. I feel this is a fair number when looked at in this overall context and support the local plan allocations across the district.

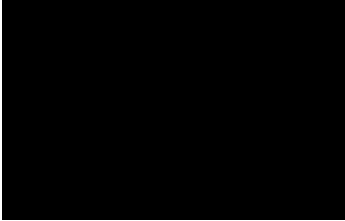
I am concerned that any increase in housing may stretch vital facilities and infrastructure must match growth. I support the 'requirements' outlined, but express concern that the Health Hub proposed for Whitehill and Bordon is not yet 100% confirmed and thus need to ensure there is adequate medical provision if the Health Hub does not get built with the Local Plan acknowledging this. I would like to see a requirement supporting public transport e.g. via S106, as this is crucial for our community, especially where we have no train station.

I understand that the new Whitehill and Bordon Town Centre development is happening in its current location because that is where the MOD land became available. However, having a shopping area in the original Town Centre area of Bordon is extremely important in serving

residents in this part of town. I also support regenerating the Forest Centre offering and ensuring shops remain open in that part of Bordon.

I am also concerned with the amount of information that residents are expected to read to format a meaningful response to the local plan consultation.

Regards,



EHDC Proposed Local Plan Reg 18 Consultation

Wed 28/02/2024 18:46

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed local by EHDC to include the building of 1250 houses on the edge of Alton town. The site targeted is totally unsuitable for numerous reasons and you have been very underhand in not informing Binsted parish council [where this development is sited] appropriately.

- Binsted parish is a rural area and the housing development would destroy 111 ha of greenfield land.
- The site is a designated "valued landscape" which means that large scale development is not permitted
- Building on the site conflicts with Policy NBE 13 "Protection of Natural resources " and dark skies.
- Building on productive farmland is against the government's own "Brownfield policy.
- The site in question was rejected for development a few years ago, so what has changed? Why subject this area to build EHDC allocation of houses here?

Further objections regarding the pressure on existing infrastructure cannot be ignored.

- Since Bentley village surgery has closed there is extra pressure on the two surgeries serving the residents of Alton and the surrounding villages. They cannot cope now so they will not cope with a huge influx of residents living in the area too.
- I understand that there is a plan to build a new primary school but what about the impact of this on the 150 year old Primary school in Binsted.
- There is no extra provision for secondary aged pupils.
- Extra traffic will cause delays, pollution and stress for commuters around the A31 and the nearby roundabout. [This area has recently had to put up with the new road development and delays while the new traffic lights and pavement was being built, so NOT AGAIN PLEASE.
- This area is separated by the A31 with no provision for cycle or pedestrian access.

Have you heard about climate change and the loss of biodiversity in the UK? This plan is going to increase this.

Shame on you. We need to preserve our local wildlife and enjoy walks in the countryside to see open farmland and not houses, houses, houses.

The river Wey has its source in Alton, shouldn't we be preserving the northern way as the site is only 30m away.

The local area already suffers from local flooding and there is currently inadequate sewage treatment capacity. It is inconceivable the effects of 1250 extra houses will have or any houses.

There has already been considerable housing development in and around Alton over the past few years, not to mention the new houses in Bordon. Hasn't this area of Hampshire had its quota of new houses. Please choose another site and get off our backs so that we can live in the area without the stress of objecting to your detrimental plans again.

Please take note and listen to the residents who live in the area and take time to improve the facilities and quality of life for existing residents and do not put this development in your local plan as we DO NOT WANT IT.

Regards



objection to the local plan

Sun 03/03/2024 19:47

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I am writing to object to the proposed huge housing development on the edge of Alton in Neatham down. This site is in the parish of Binsted and very close to the South Downs National Park. It would un naturally double the increase of population in the Parish of Binsted.

I consider the amount of houses proposed detrimental to the ecology of the area. The geology of the area is unsuitable for such a huge house building programme as it is mainly on clay. This development would damage, and kill the chalk stream in the area. It would reduce the chalk aquifer and over whelm the existing sewage treatment capacity which is already struggling to cope. All the sewage plants are illegally discharging sewage waste into the River Wey. The river Wey floods on many occasions and the housing development would increase this.

This area is a beautiful landscape that supports lots of wildlife and their habit would be taken away if the houses were built.

I am convinced that this area is totally unsuitable and I am sure that there are other more suitable sites in Hampshire.

Why is EHDC targeting the Alton area again. There has been a lot of new houses built over the past few years already, especially near the Sports centre and near the Butts. Now you are unfairly targeting the other sideof Alton.

Please reconsider and **DO NOT PUT THIS PROPOSAL IN THE LOCAL PLAN. AS A LOCAL RESIDENT I DO NOT WANT THIS.**

Regards

The local plan for Alton including Windmill Hill

[REDACTED]
Tue 27/02/2024 14:14

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I want to register my disagreement with the housing proposals in the local plan and for Windmill Hill. Alton is already a failed town. It has grown very quickly already without meeting the infrastructure needs now, let alone before all this development is agreed.

Our badly potholed roads are gridlocked at times, and Windmill Hill/ Lane is totally inadequate for the resulting traffic that would use it as a rat run if the development took place.

Our town which used to be a successful market town has been reduced to a shadow of its former self, with many shops empty due to high rents demanded by London based owners.

Our doctor surgeries already have taken on the folk from Bentley, when their practice closed. They are vastly oversubscribed and cannot provide adequate care for our area now, without extra residents. Also the referral hospital of Basingstoke for Alton is struggling to cope already with the population of this area and the wider community.

I cannot understand why these proposals are even being considered for the above reasons, let alone for the resulting damage to our beautiful countryside.

The government talked about levelling up. Surely developing the north with housing and jobs would be a better use of development overall.

I say a BIG NO to it all.

We have to have basic common sense here.

Outraged

[REDACTED]
Sent from my iPhone

Local Plan - Alton Objection

Sat 02/03/2024 09:11

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to raise my objection to the planned 1,700 houses allocated to Alton, particularly for Alton, Neatham and Windmill Hill.

Alton has taken a huge number of additional houses, particularly in recent years and since being left out of the National Park. Alton does not have the capacity to deal with more cars from Neatham and Holybourne certainly does not have the space on its narrow road through the village to cope with hundreds more houses, especially on land that is currently used for agriculture: should this not be a priority to be maintained and make us more sustainable rather than relying on imports?

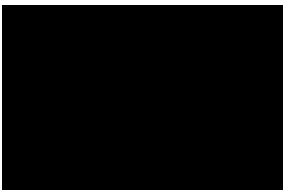
Flooding is another major concern for Holybourne in particular. Brownfield sites have been used in the past (I live on one!) and should always be considered first in the town, such as for car parks. Additionally, how many empty properties are there that could be used?

There is not only the lack of infrastructure in Alton to cope with these additional developments but, where will extra doctors and nurses come from? They don't exist at present due to the shortfall.

Alton is a market town and not a city in the making. I strongly object to the current allocation and the negative effect it will have on the community and the environment.

I would also say that it has been particularly challenging for people to give feedback on the proposed plans and especially for those who do not have online access. Please consider this for future consultations.

Yours faithfully



Alton

[REDACTED]

Thu 29/02/2024 09:30

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I wish to strongly object to your local plan for Alton and surrounding area to build over 1000 more houses. Why are Alton alone in Tier 1? The infrastructure will just not be able to support them, our schools and GP surgeries are already full to bursting point and the local roads could not support the extra traffic this will generate

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Objection to proposal to develop Neatham Down(Site ALT-8)

[REDACTED]
Sat 02/03/2024 15:33

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

To EHDC proposed Local Plan('Reg 18'Consultation)

I strongly object to the proposed development of houses on Neatham Down, a rural site designated a "Valued landscape " where such developments are normally not allowed.

The proposal could kill the chalk stream which is classified as habitats in need of protection. The ALT 8 proposal is against current government policy to better protect such chalk streams.

ALT 8 is definitely not climate resilient and the site is substantially affected by areas of groundwater flood risk.

Building on Neatham Down conflicts with Policy NBE13 'Protection of Natural Resources & Dark Skies'.

Proposal would put undue pressure on local infrastructure -roads,water supply,sewage and GP surgeries.

I sincerely hope that EHDC will withdraw the proposal.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

sent you IMG_20240104_205017.jpg

10 items, 24.9 MB in total • Expires on 15 March, 2024

IMG_20240104_205017.jpg These photos are of Riverside, Omega Park, Alton on Jan 4th 2024 when Caker Stream peaked at 1.2m (record high is 1.36m) This is next to/down stream from ALT6 allocation in the local plan. Please withdraw this parcel of land from the plan. It's a flood meadow.

Get your files

Download link

<https://wetransfer.com/downloads/a00b9e32f10e41bea5eaba8e5f55fa2620240308115546/d8f4d9f5aa659971f9663623ef4488f420240308115618/c746f5>

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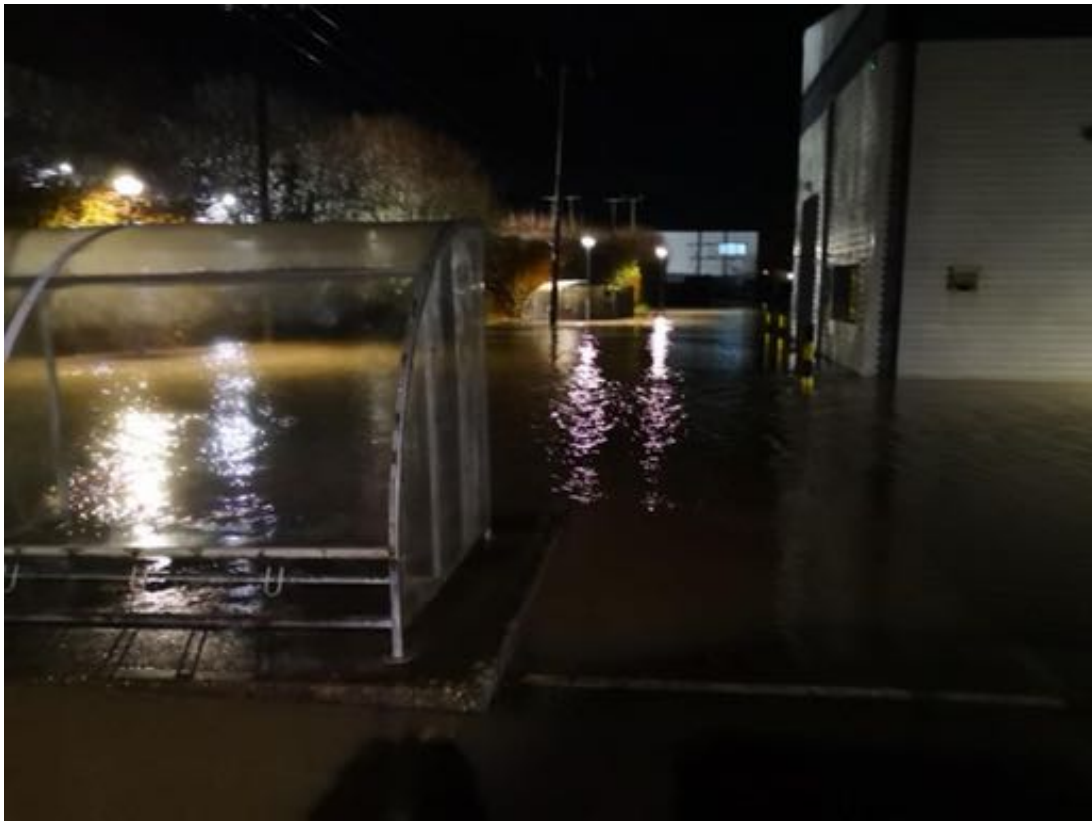
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+ 4 more















Bordon, The Anti-Eco Town

Mon 12/02/2024 17:14

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

It is getting on for 15 years since Bordon was designated as an eco town. What on earth has going on? There is still no railway station. To use buses to 3 of is not too bad. Alton, Farnham and Haslemere. However, to use the bus to the EHDC base town Petersfield, a change is required in Alton. This was not the case in past. This return journey writes off around 200 minutes. Who's going to do this trip?

What has been going on is several thousand tonnes of tarmac being laid on moving the main A325 to the west of Bordon. It is clear that the Hindhead Tunnel has already removed traffic from Bordon High Street when it opened in 2011.

Putting solar panels on the hose tower of a former fire station isn't going to contribute very much to our climate crisis at all.

Sent from [Outlook for iOS](#)

Summary

- i. I support the plan in general**
- ii. I believe the buffer of 643 houses is too high, has been arbitrarily set and should be removed or reduced substantially**
- iii. The housing numbers should be transparently calculated and discussed**
- iv. The 2024 Settlement Hierarchy document and methodology has some flaws**
- v. Four Marks and South Medstead should be declared a Tier 4 settlement, as such it should not attract so many allocated sites**
- vi. Consideration of surface water flooding should be included**
- vii. Some of the allocated sites within Four Marks should be removed or reviewed**
- viii. I support spatial strategy and in turn, the Neatham Manor Farm large site, as being the best location close to Alton and all its services.**
- ix. I have detailed comments on the policies in relation to flooding and transport.**

1) Overall position

I do cautiously support the draft Local Plan given that most of the draft Policies are supportable, and most of the specific Allocated Sites within LDA area appear logical. I also recognise that a Local Plan needs to be adopted as soon as possible to provide some control and protection of the District.

However, I do have some reservations (see sections below) on the quantum of housing needed, the Settlement Hierarchy and various other issues, such as surface flooding and sustainability, and choice of certain allocated sites.

I do find some of the policy wording used to be vague and ill-defined, without quantitative measures to assess conformance to policy. This leaves the Council exposed to costly litigious challenges by developers and others. I feel that “tighter” policy definitions are required throughout. I also note the sparse mention of wildlife protection and conservation in the Allocated sites or other developments around the District, or in policies governing the building work and approval of sites with specific wildlife present.

In addition, I have contributed to the response to the DLP from the Four Marks and Medstead Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) and fully support its content and recommendations. This response here is supplemental to that.

2) Calculation of true local housing need

It appears that the calculation of the housing targets in the Local Plan are rather too vague and inconsistent in places. I feel that any excessive number of houses will inevitably result in carving up green landscape within the District, so much more transparency should be shown to be taken. As it is, the calculation appears to be tucked away, perhaps in some other background document. In the DLP documents, no “workings” of how the number is derived is given openly. I am concerned that the number of houses proposed 9,082 is in excess of the actual figure required. The Plan already includes an increase of 54% above the objectively assessed local need for the district, due to current Affordability Ratio used in the Standard Method for calculation.

Furthermore, as the total calculated housing figure is now an *advisory* figure and not compulsory, this “freedom to adjust” should be reflected in the policy, and discussing adjusting the housing numbers downwards to reflect the SDNP area and so on. The housing figure also includes a buffer of over 10%

and 643 homes for “unmet” needs in South Downs National Park and South Hampshire, which is not a fixed figure and could increase putting even further pressure on those settlements that are the least able to withstand significant housing.

I also believe that full transparency of how the housing number is derived in a simple chart would greatly benefit local plan readers, and allow the Inspector to realise the calculation is clear, accurate and correctly justified.

I request that EHDC review the housing need in the light of these factors, taking great care to re-examine the need, to be more transparent in its deliberations and calculations and more specifically the adjustments being proposed. Each unnecessary house risks losing another green chunk of land forever.

3) Settlement Hierarchy discussion

- a. I strongly welcome the fact that proposed development is basically proportional to the settlement hierarchy as defined in Policy S2, i.e. the larger settlements with more infrastructure will receive a larger proportion of the development. The logic of this in the light of climate emergency etc is commendable. I support putting the bigger sites near the larger settlements, where there could be employment opportunities, reduced commuting and greater use of public transport etc.
- b. I note the new hierarchy tiers are now 5 levels, as opposed to the previous 4. Therefore, it is not possible to directly compare the new tiers with the previous iteration in 2023, or interpret what a given tier level means in terms of settlement character or classification.
- c. I also believe that the omission of classification of tiers as service centres, urban centres etc in both the DLP and supporting documentation makes evaluation of the impact of the tiers on “attitudes” toward development difficult to access. I believe this needs to be rectified to avoid any misunderstanding.
- d. Paragraph 3.38 implies that all Tier 3 settlements are equally “sustainable”. This generalisation is over simplistic; each settlement has individual characteristics. This statement needs to be removed, to avoid future litigious challenges of a Tier 3 settlement or a site within that settlement. On page 423: I see:

In the revised settlement hierarchy of this Draft Local Plan, Four Marks is identified as a Tier 3 settlement. Tier 3 settlements across the Local Plan Area often provide a focal point for the surrounding villages and rural areas in terms of the provision of local services and facilities. Although they do not have as wide a range of services as the higher order settlements (Tiers 1 & 2), they are still considered as sustainable locations

Thus, I see clearly that EHDC define Tier 3 settlements as “sustainable”, as with Tier 1 and 2. But that implicitly tier 4 and tier 5 are not. I fail to see how this can be generally true with markedly different accessibility scores within the Tier 3 grouping.

- e. In assessing the accessibility scores, the consultant Ridge has used hexagons placed over the settlement map in its documents, in particular the new Settlement Hierarchy Document. I note that in several cases these hexagons are not ill placed over the settlement areas. For example, Bentley (page 28, map 4), or Ropley (page 40, map 27). This results in one “relevant” hexagon (paragraph 5.5 explains this). However, there is undoubtedly some distortion of the score as a result of this “offset hexagon” effect. Ropley has a SPB far wider than one hexagon, for example. While Bentley has a station nearby, and this is not included in the Bentley “hexagon array”. I conclude that the hexagons are often rather badly positioned for each settlement examined. I note also that in paragraph 4.12, Bentley is said to include Bentley station hexagon scores, whereas they are reported separately in figure 3, (p16) with only one relevant hexagon for Bentley village. I discuss Bentley sites in section 5 c below.

- f. **Moreover, I note that Bentley and Headley (both important Tier 3 settlements) are not listed in figure 5 of the Settlement Hierarchy document. This is a glaring omission.**
- g. All these visible flaws in the Hierarchy evaluation leads to possibly incorrect conclusions about each of the District's settlements.
- h. Perhaps, a better way to examine the raw accessibility scores is to look also at the number of "relevant" hexagons shown in figure 3, page 16. This number reflects the geographic *spread* of the settlement's SPB, or it's "sprawl" factor. This itself does reflect to some extent the overall population (or number of houses and roads causing the spread) of the entire settlement, but that very spread is *detrimental* to the settlement's sustainability rating in terms of car use to access services and travel generally. I therefore see no reason to use a higher population or equally, a higher number of hexagons for a settlement, to justify moving that settlement up a Tier level (e.g. paragraph 6.9). In fact, I feel rather the opposite, a settlement with a high score and small number of relevant hexagons would indicate a compact village with good central services and transport and thus a good potential for *sustainable* housing nearby the settlement. An example would be Grayshott (score 17.3 over 6 hexagons) or Headley (score 15.4 over 4 hexagons), both new Tier 3.
- i. The argument for doing this adjustment of tiers seems a little lightweight and arbitrary, and moreover undermines the Ridge scoring system completely. I maintain that the Tier level manipulation upwards based on population is both illogical and incorrect.
- j. Fig 5 of the new 2024 Settlement Hierarchy document shows that FM/SM scores identically to Ropley at 14 (both comfortably within tier 4) per the numbering system (para 5.18, page 17) of the Settlement Hierarchy document. Four Marks/South Medstead does not score close to a tier boundary. The same applies to Rowlands Castle. Four Marks and South Medstead (FM/SM) in particular, has been singled out to have its legitimately scored tier rating modified adversely (i.e. upwards) (*paragraph 6.9*), and yet the very same document recognises the spread-out nature of Four Marks and South Medstead (*paragraph 5.12*) that means a low accessibility score and "natural" Tier level of 4. The Settlement Hierarchy document is thus contradictory, and should be corrected. I can see no justification in moving FM/SM up a tier level due to its spread-out nature (it does not have good accessibility), and indeed, using the population to justify the movement up a tier is also erroneous.
- k. The FM/SM score is low because the development has been intense over the last few years with little to no added infrastructure, so it is a very dispersed settlement spreading out 3 km along the A31 trunk road. So, whilst population is "high", the accessibility score is indeed low, meaning people need their cars to access local services. **As such FM/SM is not fully "sustainable".**
- l. **I strongly believe Four Marks/South Medstead should remain in tier 4 to reflect the TRUE character of the settlement which is largely an unsustainable car-centric settlement.** In addition, further consideration of the sites in FM/SM that have been chosen needs to be taken to review if they are in fact truly sustainable. This review would be routine at this present moment (Mar 2024) (using the current EHDC CPxx policies) if these sites come up for speculative Applications (as some have already). EHDC need to be seen to do the same for Local Plan site allocations.

4) Surface water flooding

On page 422 of the sites. Chapter 12, it is stated that Four Marks does not suffer from Fluvial or groundwater flooding. But it omits entirely any mention of serious surface water flooding, which there undoubtedly is. The entire plan needs a surface water map, like it has for fluvial and ground water. **Ensure a surface flooding risk map for East Hampshire is included in the DLP.**

I urge EHDC to take account of the increased frequency '*x year significant rainfall events*', plus climate change, particularly with regard to the effect of surface water runoff from each respective development site.

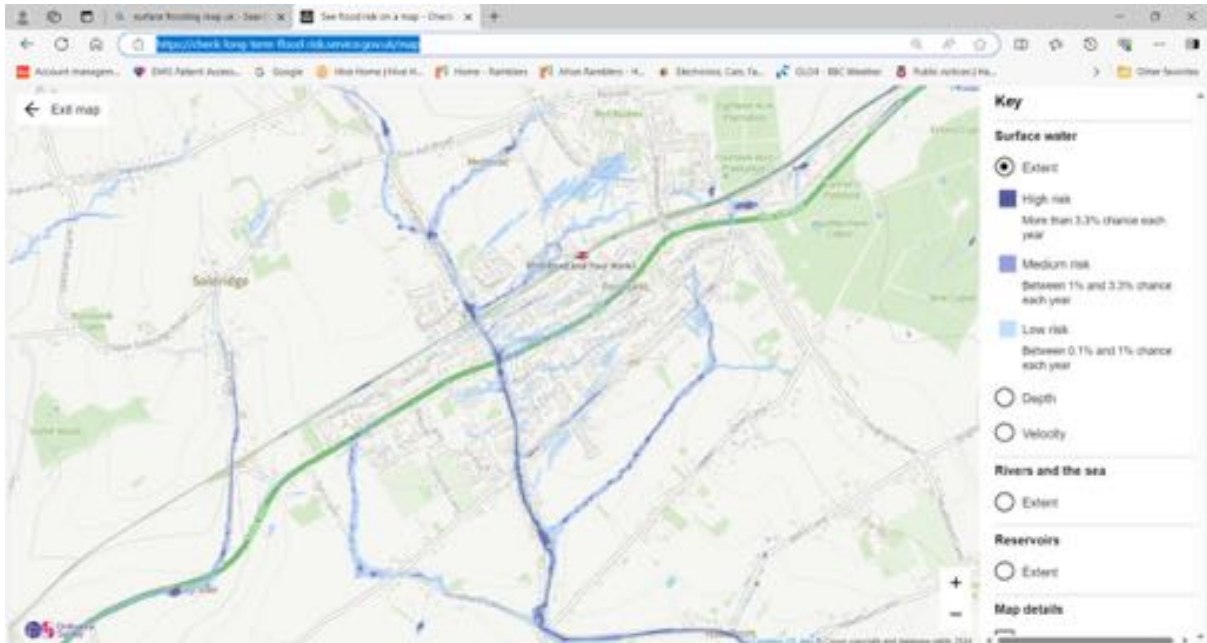
There is a particular problem in Four Marks and South Medstead. Although on a Clay Plateau, Four Marks suffers from surface water flooding despite being over 180 m above sea level. As local residents in Four Marks, I have to experience that surface flooding every time it rains heavily, especially along Lymington Bottom. The problem is that Lymington Bottom and Lymington Bottom Road in South Medstead are part of the same river valley (the old river Lym) and Mother Nature insists it wants a river there, to channel the surface water, despite mankind building a road etc. along the valley. That surface water comes from the infiltration into the clay plateau layer above the valley on both sides. So, all the surface water from above the road either runs down to the Lymington Bottom/Road valley or soaks in and then the groundwater exits from the clay layer edges and fills the valley anyhow. The result is frequent flooding along Lymington Bottom. This clay layer extends under practically all of the housing in Four Marks and South Medstead. I am deeply concerned that with the massive house building on the clay plateau, actual or planned in this Local Plan, will forever disrupt the surface water flows, and increase the flooding at any low points in the villages.

I believe we are reaching the point where ANY more house building in Four Marks/South Medstead will have significant adverse surface flooding and drainage effects around the villages. An example is already happening in the recreation ground in Four Marks. This is waterlogged a good portion of the winter months, due to the nearby "Medstead Farm" (Charles Church) development's foundations interrupting the groundwater flows away from the recreation ground, meanwhile Lymington Bottom floods more regularly. Belford House care home further south on Lymington Bottom was flooded in 2014 and the residents had to be evacuated, the adjacent plot behind 87 Lymington Bottom regularly floods with a veritable river flowing down to Lymington Bottom, the Five Lane ends junction by the local Primary school is regularly flooded (a dangerous spot to flood with the kids crossing to school there). This is despite Hampshire Highways installing various schemes to manage this water, including at the bottom of Blackberry Lane and at Five Ash Road Pond.

I believe that EHDC should greatly increase the consideration of surface water flooding across the District, and take this into account when selecting site allocations.

Below is a map of the surface water flooding in the Four Marks & South Medstead area.

[See flood risk on a map - Check your long term flood risk - GOV.UK \(check-long-term-flood-risk.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk)



The map clearly shows the high risk of surface flooding in Lymington Bottom and Lymington Bottom Road. Two of the allocated sites in Four Marks have high surface water risks. I note that the main Four Marks site affected (Barn Lane) does have a flood map as part of the discussion section attached to that site (p 433).

Allocations of sites in the Local plan which suffer from surface flooding must surely be questioned as to their suitability *over and above* the other criteria used for selection.

I also note that with all the planned housing in Alton and that proposed in Four Marks, that the sewage works in Alton will need considerable expansion, and therefore that site ALT3 is reserved for only that purpose, since there is no other land available.

5) **Site Selections**

a. Introductory remarks:

I have very real concerns regarding the level of over-development in Four Marks and South Medstead. There have been almost no upgrade/additions to the infrastructure but very substantial increase in dwellings (571), and with planning in place for 75 more, despite the JCS having set a total requirement of just 175 up to 2028. Despite this very large surplus over the target, over 200 more are now included in the current Draft Local Plan, again without any substantial change to the infrastructure. I maintain that infrastructure cannot be retrofitted to our smaller settlements. The over-development in the past has not been accounted for in this new Draft Plan, and there is no reason to expect that it will be prevented in the future, once the new Plan is adopted.

In addition to this the settlement of Four Marks/South Medstead is subject to numerous speculative Planning Applications, some currently already in the system. This remains of great concern to residents as demonstrated by high planning objection numbers to these Planning Applications, none of which meet the criteria for Policy acceptance, (outside SPB, 4YLS in place). These applications should not, as residents fear, be constantly considered as windfall, disproportionately impacting Four Marks and South Medstead.

b. General site selection:

Following the logic of using an accessibility score for a settlement to determine its hierarchy, it surely makes sense to assess each potential site from the Land Availability Assessment (LAA) for the DLP using the same method- if only to ensure it is a sustainable site, along with the usual deliverability and other factors. I believe the Ridge study 1 contains this rating for some of the LAA sites. <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-01/Report%201%20-%20accessibility%20study.pdf>.

This is a key process that must be objective (score-based) and transparent. While it is a Draft, how will EHDC justify the inclusion (and retention in the ultimate adopted Local Plan) or conversely exclusion, of a given site, if there is no objective measure for all to see? More open debate on the scoring and selection methods are needed, even if this is contained in another document. The lack of transparency is always a point of vulnerability for developers and others to exploit later.

c. Choice of sites in Four Marks (tier 4 in our opinion- see 3)) versus Bentley (tier 3):

I note the site allocation distribution, which is roughly proportional. In Ch 12 of the DLP, page 332, figure 12.1 shows Bentley having few houses (20) allocated versus its tier level 3, even accounting for Four Marks/South Medstead (210) and Rowlands Castle (145) having already been bumped up a tier from their natural tier 4 score. (See section 3 above).

Looking at the LAA 2023 and bearing in mind that Bentley scores 16.7 (page 16 of the settlement hierarchy paper) in the settlement Hierarchy, far more than Four Marks and South Medstead (13.9- not near top of tier 4 at all), I note there is just one site of 20 houses west of Hole Lane allocated to Bentley. The LAA/ Ridge report 1 lists many sites in Bentley, a lot of them available in <5 years, all with good accessibility scores. True, FM/SM has more in pure number of sites, but Bentley has several sites with as good if not better accessibility scores:

FMS 2 Land Rear of 97 to 103 Blackberry Lane – This site has a Ridge and Partners Transport Report 1 accessibility score of 8.

FMS4 Land South of Winchester Road – This site has a Ridge and Partners Transport Report 1 accessibility score of 11.

The ONE site in Bentley BEN-017 (land west of Hole Lane) is scoring 13. But BEN-005, -108, -013,-011 all score higher still.

So, I ask, **why is Bentley, a Tier 3 settlement, NOT having more of these sites defined as allocated sites?**

d. Sites chosen within Four Marks:

i. Blackberry Lane, FMS2: FM-015.

I question the selection of this small site. I note that it is currently awaiting planning decision as a speculative Application, but has two holding objections from LLFA and Landscape Officer, and strong objection from Parish Council and 118 public objections. The site has a large slow-worm population per the Ecological Report. The Ecological Report for the current planning application identified (Table 6) potential negative effects of the development in respect of all the following:

- ° Bats (roosting)
- ° Bats (foraging)
- ° Dormice
- ° Reptiles (slow-worms)
- ° Breeding birds
- ° Hedgehogs

In particular, the potential negative effects on slow-worms and hedgehogs are considered 'major'. Indeed, the Reptile Survey Report identified an 'exceptional' population of over 20 slow-worms distributed evenly across the site. Measures can be proposed to mitigate these negative effects (e.g. slow-worms can be moved to another location) but the efficacy of such measures is highly questionable.

Furthermore, it is important to note the consultee comment by the Archaeological Section that the site is 'in an area of some archaeological interest with the projected line of the Roman road between Winchester and London running along the north western edge of the site'. They requested that no development should take place until the applicant has implemented a programme of archaeological assessment involving trial trenches, to ensure that any archaeological remains encountered are recognised, characterised and recorded.

There are also concerns about the potential provision of deep-bore soakaways in that the installation would contribute to flooding issues on Lymington Bottom and the Lead Local Flood Authority does not regard this as a sustainable solution.

The site lies clearly outside the current SPB and south of the widely-recognised "line" of Blackberry Lane- Brislands Lane which defines the de-facto southern edge of the settlement in terms of housing density and character. Yet, in the DLP, I see the site included and a proposal to move the SPB to include this site. It appears the biggest threat to the SPB is the next EHDC Local Plan! Given the apparent over-estimation of housing need (see section 1), surely this sensitive site of only 20 houses can be removed from the allocation list?

ii. Land South of Winchester Road FMS4; FM-025.

The surface flooding on this site needs careful evaluation (see section 4). I feel this lowers the scoring for this site due to the costs of mitigating this flooding over the long term. The site is at the limits of sustainability and distance from local services. Careful examination of the impact of road access onto A31 is needed, and any facilities such as a convenience store need to be sited visibly off the A31 to render it viable. The southern end and western edge of the site should be made with low-profile rooflines and as green as possible, to taper into the rural areas to the south near Brislands Lane etc.

6) Neatham Manor Farm site ALT8; BIN-011

I welcome the strategy which highlights a more focussed distribution of development throughout the whole LPA area and support the proposed allocation of a single strategic site (at Neatham Manor Farm). The logic for Neatham Manor Farm is that it is adjacent to the largest and most sustainable settlement in the LPA area and direct link to the A31 trunk road without affecting the rest of the town or District. However, I believe that the delivery of this site and in particular its associated infrastructure is crucial for the success of this housing distribution strategy. The school and stores etc should be built early on to take the families moving into the first phases of houses going up. The loss of a green hillside is regrettable, but houses have to go in a sustainable location, as this seems to be. I particularly favour this choice of location as all the residents can easily access the A31 to commute to towards London, or south to Winchester, or of course to get into Alton itself. I note the new pedestrian and cycleway proposed across the bridge over the A31; this will form a valuable route for Alton residents to go into town centre for shops and train etc, while providing a safe route out for families to walk south of the town and south of the A31.

I hope the footpath 020/1/1 passing through the site can be made pleasant and safe to use, and not too narrow a green "corridor". More attention to this footpath's exact route and to make new A31

crossing points (e.g. dropped kerbs, road markings, visible to motorists approaching the roundabout) over the newly expanded A31 roundabout needs to be considered also- the current crossings at the roundabout are very dangerous, and the path is rarely used. A link to the pavement on Montecchio way on the north east side of the A31, would also be useful. This all needs to be rectified to make the footpath 1 a popular route that de facto is used and gives people true benefit.

I also note the quite apparently sympathetic retention of green infrastructure around the edges of the site, to protect the rural scene along the Hangers Way (paths 020/26/1, 020/70/1, 259/31/1, 259/31/2, 259/32/3, 259/33/1, 020/3/1 and 002/703/1) and other paths in the region to the south, including the SDNP boundary only 1500 m away.

I won't comment in detail on any of the other Alton based allocated sites, particularly as the Alton Neighbourhood plan is still being finalised, but again the logic of building close to the biggest town in in the District to keep things sustainable, is one I agree with. Far better that residents have a short walk or cycle to town, than a ten-mile return journey as from Four Marks, to get to a reasonable supermarket etc. But that does not overcome the fact that Alton does not have enough stores (e.g. clothing) to avoid the need to go to Basingstoke, Winchester or Farnham.

I also would like to point out that Neatham Manor Farm is likely one of the LAST sustainable locations for large scale development left in northern East Hampshire. For example, any further development on the south side of the A31 at Alton would not have that vital A31 link that Neatham Manor Farm does; Chawton Park Farm has already been rejected by EHDC as being unsustainable and too far from Alton centre. No sites in FM/SM can be considered sustainable in comparison. So, in 2040 the next local Plan might require a different housing strategy.

7) Comments on SPB movements in Four Marks

Referring to the Interim Settlement Boundary review:

Four Marks 16, Land south of 131 Winchester Road: This small site is designated as SINC due to the presence of Dormice. There is also a small area of protected woodland under separate ownership and a large badger sett. There have been several planning applications for this site and it finally Int to appeal, but refused by the inspector who also made a site visit. Why is this land now being INCLUDED in the SPB? It needs to remain as is to protect the wildlife. The inclusion of this area within the Settlement Policy Boundary is unacceptable due to the status of the perimeter hedgerow of a SINC. There are several TPO's in this area. Even if the border of the area was retained, there would still be unacceptable damage to wildlife and biodiversity through the disruption of the perimeter. The change to the existing SPB is contrary to the new Chapter 05: *Safeguarding our Natural and Built Environment: Policy NBE2: Biodiversity, geodiversity and nature conservation'* and therefore must not be implemented.

The direct access onto the A31 would be too narrow to allow safe passage and so alternative access would need to be cut through the SINC in one direction or another.

Medstead 9: Properties along Five Ash Road: I object strongly to EDHC placing an SPB down Five Ash Road - I believe this is unjustified and is a precursor for a future large site on the fields behind Five Ash road.

8) Other specific comments on draft policies

Where a policy number is not listed, I am generally in support of the respective policy. Policies are only listed where I have a specific comment, as follows.

S1.3

I agree that the spatial strategy Fig 3.1 Key Diagram showing where development is to be located accords with the stated Settlement Hierarchy and allows for a greater development in larger more sustainable areas

S2.2

In general, I am in favour of the revised Settlement Hierarchy methodology which is now on a more considered and fairer basis which has taken into account the representations in particular from the residents and representative bodies of Four Marks and South Medstead, the previous methodology having sought to elevate the settlement from tier 3 to tier 2. I note that a new element has been introduced moving settlements near to the tier thresholds up or down based on population, I do not understand the logic of this, surely if a settlement has finite infrastructure, having a larger population is a disadvantage and should not result in a move to a higher tier (see section 3 above).

S2.3

I note that it is proposed that many smaller (Tier 4 and Tier 5) settlements are to have a Settlement Boundary (SPB), although this is not the case at present. Will the creation of these new SPB's lead to potentially unsustainable development within the new boundary?

I am in favour of SPB's in the larger areas allowing suitable sustainable development within these boundaries and precluding encroachment on the surrounding countryside, provided the development within the SPB meets the criteria stated.

S2.4

I am fully in agreement with the concept that development outside the SPB of settlements listed is considered Countryside and will be restricted to that which is appropriate in a rural area as set out in Policy NBE1.

NBE10

Seems quite subjective.

I note that Four Marks is the most northerly of the Hampshire 'Hangers', and its western edge of the Four Marks/ 'South Medstead' Settlement adjacent to the A31 has extensive views to the west including Cheesefoot Head, and similarly the view from those sites to Four Marks.

When consulted by EHDC on its *10 Large Site Consultation*, CPRE noted that the escarpment between Ropley and Four Marks was a "valued" landscape of significance and should be protected. At the top of this escarpment is Barn Lane, Four Marks and the proposed *FMS4 Land South of Winchester Road*. If this development is approved, I seek that Policy NBE 10 is rigorously applied to the development.

Policy DGC1: Infrastructure

I support the Policy DGC1; the requirement for infrastructure to be provided at time of need, using secured funding determined at the time of adjudication of the relevant Planning Application, and 'policed' by using Grampian conditions if required. This has sadly not happened enough in the past. I hope this new policy can be better enforced.

I agree that linkages to existing or new public transport services must be in place, but note that outside of the Tier 1 and 2 settlements, these services are often almost non-existent. I remind EHDC that its Settlement Hierarchy paper determines that access to such transport should be within 400m of the furthest dwelling from the site access- a clear definition of a "sustainable" site location.

10 SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY

I am very concerned that the Plan does too little to support employment in the District. High levels of transport emissions are due to the amount of commuting undertaken in private cars because of the lack of employment opportunities in the District. 44% of those in employment commute to work

outside the District. Winchester was clearly shown as one of the major destinations for East Hants residents commuting to work and this is unlikely to have changed since 2011. As such, I can expect a significant number of residents in the new homes that have already been built, and will be built as a result of this Local Plan, to impact further on A31 bottlenecks in Four Marks and South Medstead. As an obvious bottleneck in Four Marks, the Plan needs to avoid putting further stress on overloaded junctions to A31 (Telegraph Lane and Lymington Bottom). I believe that the main junctions onto the A31 are at or near their practical capacity (0.85 RFC) already, and great care must be taken to ensure developments allocated to the settlements not impact this.

11 DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES

In many of the “DM” policies, the wording is more aspirational than prescriptive and thus open to interpretation by (costly) appeal or other processes. Some of the back-up text does have some details that ought to be inside the policy itself. It is not clear if the supporting paragraphs are part of the policy itself (i.e., legislative) or just to justify and explain the use of it (not legislative). It is noted that most of the DM policies do not affect Four Marks or Medstead to a great extent. It appears that the policies are ‘protective’.

There are many references to Appendix 3 on “Marketing”. *I presume this is a typo and should be changed to Appendix D.*

Policy DM12: Dark Night Skies

DM12: this is a policy which will have a marked effect once implemented.

The policy DM12.1 implies **all** of EHDC (non-SDNP and SDNP) is a “dark sky” zone and this is confirmed in paragraph 11.84. This is defining all of EHDC to be a dark sky zone. This might make urban areas less lit and safe enough at night and may in certain areas affect crime. Police, etc., might have a strong opinion on this. If there is to be some kind of exclusion zone in urban areas where “dark sky” provision is waived, then a corresponding map/ boundary definition is needed. Also, there is no mention of a tighter dark sky exclusion zone near to the edges of the SDNP where dark skies are more rigidly enforced. However, if the intent of DM12 is indeed to make ALL of EH a true dark sky zone, this would not be needed. More clarity is needed.

Policy DM17: Backland development

DM17: The SPB is there to protect from backland developments that fall outside it. However, come the new Local Plan all that is changed. In Four Marks, for example, 3 of the four allocated sites are anyhow currently in the planning application process as “speculative” Applications outside the SPB, and are awaiting decision, yet they are directly backland development outside the CURRENT SPB, which would be rejected under DM17 or its predecessor policy. NOW, come the new Plan, these very sites will be included in the new SPB, etc., and are allocated sites in the DLP, with a clear presumption of “semi-automatic” Approval when they are entered for Planning Permission. It thus seems almost pointless to have a policy DM17, since it is just ignored (moved) when a next new Draft Local Plan is drawn up. However I recognize DM17 can thereafter protect or regulate backland development within the agreed new SPB, which generally is not a major issue to character.

In effect, a new draft Local Plan is as dangerous to local character as allowing backland development in the first place.

Conclusion

I am in general support of the draft Plan, with the following reservations:

1. I question the housing supply numbers- too many houses are planned.
2. I question the Settlement Hierarchy results.

Policy SP1 – Spatial Strategy

Support is offered to the proposed spatial strategy! In particular the recognition that there is a need to deliver new homes in a way that respects existing settlement patterns, roles, separation and infrastructure provision. Please see comments on Policy SP2 below.

Policy SP2 – Settlement Hierarchy

The revised settlement hierarchy and distribution of sites is broadly **supported!**

Support is offered for the placement of Medstead in Tier 4 of the settlement hierarchy. This is an appropriate level for the existing village and will hopefully allow for organic and incremental growth appropriate for the level of services and infrastructure available whilst respecting historic separation from surrounding settlements such as Four Marks and Beech.

The renewed focus of development at Alton is equally supported, this will hopefully allow for expansion of the market towns role and facility provision. Alton represents a sustainable location for development, and it is considered the most appropriate focus for development in the northern party of East Hampshire district.

Support for the focus of development is tempered with concerns regarding the levels of development permitted and proposed around the Chawton Park area. It is considered that the Local Plan should make specific reference to the need to protect this asset and require design coding/masterplanning that ensures protection of the asset and its setting in any future development proposals

Chapter 04 – Responding to Climate Change

Policy CLIM 1 to 5 are **supported**. This chapter is endorsed for its recognition of the environmental crisis facing the planet. Whilst development should always respect the existing settlement pattern any development that does occur will enjoy significantly more support if it is designed to the highest ecological standards.

Policy NBE11 – Gaps between settlements

Support is offered to this policy. The need to maintain the setting of settlements is paramount to maintaining the intrinsic character of the East Hampshire area. In particular the need to avoid further coalescence of Medstead, Beech and Four Marks is important in protecting existing community identity and function.

Policy DM18 – Residential Extensions and Annexes

The Policy is **supported**. It is noted that the policy is not based in numerical calculations but rather rooted in a quality design led approach. This is appropriate given potential amendments to permitted development rights and also provides flexibility to homeowners wishing to modernise and improve existing properties inline with climate considerations.

Local Plan

[REDACTED]
Sat 02/03/2024 12:34

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

>>> I am writing to register my objection to the amount of housing allocated under Tier 1 Alton.

>>> This allocation is unfair for our small market town just because we are outside of the South Downs National Park.

>>> The Neatham Down site is not a sustainable site. It will be a car-dependant community and will add to the existing traffic problems around Alton and Holybourne.

>>> We need to retain valuable agriculture land to encourage more home grown products to feed our country instead of costly imports which harms the environment.

>>> Alton is a small rural town and Holybourne a small historic village and cannot take more large development and the problems that creates. The infrastructure of Alton and Holybourne cannot sustain major development on this scale.

>>> [REDACTED]

>>> Holybourne Resident

Sent from my iPad

New houses in Bordon.

[Redacted]

Fri 01/03/2024 18:39

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear sirs,

regarding the plan for 667 new houses to be built on brownfield sites in the Whitehill and Bordon area, I do accept the proposal but would not be happy for that figure to be increased. As we all know the infrastructure, doctors and dental surgeries, is already insufficient and struggling to cope. It would be foolish to allow more homes to be constructed and congesting the countryside any more than it already is.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

Objection to Neatham development proposal Reg 18 Consultation

Wed 28/02/2024 13:40

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

Ref Neatham Down proposed development Reg 18 Consultation and Site Alt-8

I hereby strongly oppose the above proposed development on the following grounds.

According to the 2021 census Alton's population was just under 18,000. 1000-1250 new properties would likely represent a 17% uplift in that population putting a massive extra strain on all the local utilities and infrastructure. The population of the parish of Binsted will double. This is totally out of proportion to the local requirements.

Current EHDC developments and proposals are 22% over the required number of new homes needed of 9,082 by 2040. This is a margin way over what is necessary.

Two other proposed developments (HOP 1 Holt Pound and ALT 7 Lynch Hill) when added to this proposal, will absorb 111 hectare of agricultural land or 4% of greenfield land in the parish of Binsted. Importantly this is in contravention of the government's "Brownfield First" policy.

The local schools and doctors' surgeries are already under-resourced. The new developments at the West end of Alton have yet to fully impact those facilities without the demand from this proposal being added.

Sewage infrastructure is currently not adequate. At times there have been discharges into the local chalk streams. Run-off from new roads, driveways etc will threaten many more occasions for this to happen. The local chalk streams are part of a system which represent a large percentage of the WORLD's such habitats. Parts of the site are only 30 metres from the river Wey. The site is affected by groundwater flood risk.

The proposal conflicts with Policy NBE13 "Protection of Natural Resources and Dark Skies".

This site has already been assessed and rejected for a smaller development of 650 houses and so how can it now be appropriate for double the number?

The site is designated a "Valued Landscape". Large (in this case a Strategic Site) developments are not normally allowed. A diverse fauna including some red list birds will be at risk.

The site is not convenient to any existing Alton retail and social amenities. The A31 must be crossed. Alton town centre is up to 2 km away by foot or cycle. Assuming a lower level of car ownership, this is potentially very difficult for Affordable Housing residents.

Vehicular activity will increase substantially, certainly locally, but also wider afield for accessing more appealing retailing and for work. The Holybourne to Binsted road could well become a rabbit run for access to the A325 and A287. This road is narrow and there already big problems with speeding through the villages. No transport and capacity work has been undertaken. Where is the employment?

This, if allowed, will be the thin end of the planning wedge. The first incursion into the greenfield area south of the A31. An attitude of "if we can get away with it once we can do it again and again" will be engendered in developer and EHDs minds until the gap between Alton and Four Marks is closed. An easy choice for EHDC!

The list of objections is significantly longer than the above.

I trust the EHDC will reject this proposal as totally untenable.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED] of Binsted

Local planning site usability

EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

Thu 22/02/2024 14:05

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 8:33 PM
To: EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Local planning site usability

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Unfortunately I have to comment on the local plan site "design"

The bottom line is that the usability of the site is dire/abismal, and is unusable.

I am not suprised there is still very little feedback on the site.

Unfortunately this local plan consultation is pointless with such a terrible site.


As an IT person I find it nearly unusable I can't see how other especailly disabled people can be using it easily. It one of the worst sites of this kind I have ever used.

It loses comments (I had to add mine 4 time before they "stuck" and that was just for my first response and it has taken a very long time to do the few responses I have due to this and other issues), constantly asks for email address, 'next' rarely goes to next, especailly if you have no comments and often loses those comment if you do. I could go on and on with issues.


Sorry but its not fit for purpose and whatever 'results' are obtained will not really be valid given the issues. Most people will give up of there comments will not be registered.

I really suggest stopping the consultation, starting again with a site that is designed right and works nicely.

[REDACTED]

 Site FMS2 in the draft Local Plan
Sat 02/03/2024 14:44

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

 1 attachments (18 KB)

Development at site FMS2 in draft Local Plan.docx;

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

**Re: The inclusion of site FMS2 in the draft Local Plan.
Land at 103 and to the rear of 97 to 105 Blackberry Lane, Four Marks, Alton.**

We are writing to protest the inclusion of this site (FMS2) in the draft Local Plan. FMS2 involves the development of greenfield land which is defined as 'countryside' by policy CP19 of the Joint Core Strategy and should be protected 'for its own sake'. Furthermore, it lies outside the original Settlement Policy Boundary, CP10.

The Medstead & Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2028 states: **The inappropriate development of residential gardens, where such development would harm local character, will be refused.** This site appears to be such an 'inappropriate development'.

Traffic is already a continuing problem for residents. Blackberry Lane is a single-lane rural residential road which is frequently used by motorists to avoid traffic build-up on the A31. There is no street lighting on Blackberry Lane and no footpath at all on one side of the road. It is used by parents walking their children to and from school and by local people taking exercise and walking their dogs.

The threat to wildlife is real. Site FMS2 houses a Bat population which will have to be removed, as well as a sizeable colony of Slowworms, also to be removed. The Hazel Dormouse is known to live on this site. The National Trust says these tiny mammals are already considered extinct in 17 English counties. Their number has halved since the Millennium. Badgers, hibernating hedgehogs, and breeding birds will be deterred or displaced.

This intrusion into one of the few open spaces remaining in Four Marks will do further damage to protected wildlife and will continue the destruction of the 'village' character of Four Marks.

Yours faithfully,

Planning Policy,
East Hampshire District Council,
Penns Place,
Petersfield,
Hampshire, GU31 4EX.

1st March 2024

Dear Sirs,

**Re: The inclusion of site FMS2 in the draft Local Plan.
Land at 103 and to the rear of 97 to 105 Blackberry Lane, Four Marks, Alton.**

We are writing to protest the inclusion of this site (FMS2) in the draft Local Plan. FMS2 involves the development of greenfield land which is defined as ‘**countryside**’ by policy CP19 of the Joint Core Strategy and should be protected ‘**for its own sake**’. Furthermore, it lies outside the original Settlement Policy Boundary, CP10.

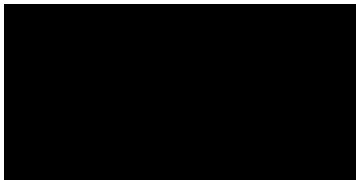
The Medstead & Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2028 states: **The inappropriate development of residential gardens, where such development would harm local character, will be refused.** This site appears to be such an ‘**inappropriate development**’.

Traffic is already a continuing problem for residents. Blackberry Lane is a single-lane rural residential road which is frequently used by motorists to avoid traffic build-up on the A31. There is no street lighting on Blackberry Lane and no footpath at all on one side of the road. It is used by parents walking their children to and from school and by local people taking exercise and walking their dogs.

The threat to wildlife is real. Site FMS2 houses a Bat population which will have to be removed, as well as a sizeable colony of Slowworms, also to be removed. The Hazel Dormouse is known to live on this site. The National Trust says these tiny mammals are already considered extinct in 17 English counties. Their number has halved since the Millennium. Badgers, hibernating hedgehogs, and breeding birds will be deterred or displaced.

This intrusion into one of the few open spaces remaining in Four Marks will do further damage to protected wildlife and will continue the destruction of the ‘village’ character of Four Marks.

Yours faithfully,



Alton local plan comment

[REDACTED]
Fri 23/02/2024 10:01

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

The North end of the town's roads are already very congested and becoming difficult to navigate and making it dangerous for children and motorists alike. Gilbert White Way and Wooteys Way particularly at both ends of the respective roads are becoming accidents waiting to happen. The North end of the town has taken more than it's fair share of houses in recent years and in most places reached the previous height limits set by the authorities. The obvious choices to build now despite the fact Alton is taking more than it's fair share of new build must be in other geographic areas of the town which are reluctantly able to take the development, with easy access to A31 so as to lessen impact on the town as a whole and spare Wootys and our recent new build neighbours more than their fair share of the anguish and strife of even more new properties. Yours Sincerely [REDACTED]

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

Draft Local Plan

[REDACTED]
Sun 03/03/2024 11:53

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir / Madam

I wish to strongly object to the proposal to put Alton alone in Tier 1 of the Draft Local Plan, whereas in the past it was grouped together with others in Tier 1.

I understand that this would result in an a further 1700 new houses being allocated to Alton, which would be far in excess of the proposed allocation for each of the areas now placed in Tier 2 of the proposals.

In recent years, Alton has already absorbed a great many new houses and I believe that this new allocation would be both unfair and unjustified.

[REDACTED]

Neatham Down housing

Sun 03/03/2024 18:31

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir

I wish to record my objection to proposals to build a large number of houses on Neatham Down.

This is a greenfield site and an area of outstanding natural beauty. Its destruction would represent a colossal, irrecoverable loss to the local amenity and environment.

Few, if any, facilities are likely to be provided in the new development and accessing those available in Alton would generate large numbers of car journeys on already busy roads: the school run and trips to supermarkets, railway station, banks, library, and leisure activities to name just a few. And what of the households with no car?

Alton's infrastructure is hardly robust; schools, police, medical, social care, wastewater disposal, and other functions are already stretched. Libraries, museums and leisure facilities are already limited and under financial pressure. Authorities struggle to cope with their responsibilities, most notably waste disposal/recycling, road maintenance/sweeping and litter clearing, particularly from verges. Loading the infrastructure further, without some very heavy investment in Alton's current facilities would be disastrous.

Alton cannot and should not be expected, to shoulder the impact of developments such as this.

Yours sincerely

FW: re EHDC Local Plan Consultation

Fri 01/03/2024 12:57

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Hello

I would like to contribute to the draft Local Plan Consultation.

I am broadly supportive of the comprehensive draft Local Plan, but would make specific comments in relation to "Managing future Development", where **I Object Strongly** to the following specific draft proposals:

- The new housing target number (approx. 11k over the period to 2040) includes no less than 4.8k houses as a "buffer" number mainly due to application of the so called "Affordability Ratio", but also to accommodate unspecified "migration" from South Hampshire – this makes little sense in what is a rural district and particularly when 83% of the new houses are allocated to 43% of the total EHDC area, due to the constraints of the SDNP
- Contrary to Government guidance for urban areas there is proposed no "brownfield first" policy, to reduce need for building on green fields
- Upgraded allocation of Bentley to Tier 3 status in the Settlement Hierarchy:
 - Bentley has a small population (1k) and is a rural settlement with very limited services – therefore significant new housing is inherently unsustainable, because it makes disproportionately necessary the use of the private car
 - However Bentley has been assessed as Tier 3, based on its relative "sustainability" and "accessibility". This is a comparable assessment to much bigger settlements such as Four Marks (5k) and Clanfield (6K)
 - "Sustainability" relates to the locally available services – Bentley's are no greater than Bentworth, Medstead, Ropley – all classified as Tier 4
 - Bentley lost its Surgery in 2021 – this has probably not been registered
 - Bentworth, Medstead, Ropley (Tier 4) all have schools, churches, recreation grounds etc
 - Extension of local employment in Bentley has been considered "unviable" by EHDC in examination of its Neighbourhood Plan
 - Thames Water currently has an appalling record of sewerage spills into River Wey (x 62 in 2022) and therefore provides an inadequate service to the existing community
 - "Accessibility" relates to "living locally" and "the 20 minute neighbourhood", which means walking or cycling to available services within 10 mins - ie to reduce the use of private cars
 - Bentley's score is high almost entirely due to the presence of Bentley Station, which is 1 mile (ie >10 mins) from the Settlement Area. Its limited carpark is already full by 7.20am for most of the working week
 - Bentley is not a local settlement "node" and its minimal services do not currently attract residents from other local settlements (on foot or cycle)
 - **In summary, the Bentley rural settlement, with its very limited services, is significantly less sustainable/accessible than other Tier 3 settlements and is much more akin to those in Tier 4. Significant new housing in Bentley would run contrary to EHDC's laudable longer term targets to achieve "zero carbon" and in so doing reduce the use of the private car. Therefore, the facts dictate that Bentley's status should be reassessed to Tier 4**

Please acknowledge receipt of these comments

Thank you

Support for Alton Town Council's Objections to overdevelopment.

[REDACTED]

Sun 03/03/2024 12:07

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I wish to offer my support to Alton Town council's objections to the huge amount of new housing developments that are being pushed into our already overdeveloped area. This huge growth is slowly enveloping our existing communities to the extent that the local infrastructure is starting to fail now and will only get worse.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad Air

Local plan

[REDACTED] >

Mon 04/03/2024 16:33

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I wish to support Alton Town Council's objections

[REDACTED] - EHDC Local Plan 2023/24

Sun 03/03/2024 20:04

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Please see my email to [REDACTED] below.

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Mar 3, 2024 at 8:02 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: EHDC Local Plan 2023/24

[REDACTED]

I'm emailing you as my comments in Commonplace have failed to register and I really want to make my opinions known. I spent an hour typing up my thoughts which was an hour wasted, so I'm condensing what I said. To be honest, it's just the same as many others are saying, so here goes;

Alton allocation of 1700 new homes:

- This is too many for a small, rural market town set in the Wey Valley. Alton is a linear town in a valley. The only way to expand is up the hills either side- on green field land- not acceptable on any level. This goes against so many policies, I don't need to list them, you know what they are. The other alternative is to creep along the valley, also not acceptable, Chawton Park Farm has already been rejected for many reasons, not the least of which being accessibility. The other end is Holybourne, so many reasons why this cannot be allowed, access, ancient sites, flooding, traffic etc. So where do we put new homes? Brownfield sites which have been ignored. Beyond that potential we cannot accept any more. There have been enough new developments in the last few years with more ongoing and in the pipeline. No more please!

Other reasons:

- Lack of services with no commitment to provide more, local schools and medical centres already under strain or oversubscribed with no commitment to expand.

- Lack of services and transport infrastructure. Potential chaos of adding 1000s more cars to our roads.
- Calculation of homes needed is flawed and the buffer included too high and not realistic.
- Do people even want to live in Alton? I hear that the Brewery site is not selling well? If we had the houses, would they be occupied? Has a study been done on this?
- Building on the hills- rainfall is increasing so spring water and run off will increase, building on this land will increase the run off further endangering the valley below and thereby the town. I'm not even going to expand on the lack of biodiversity and danger to nature this would also cause.

Neatham Down - a ludicrous idea!

- All the above
- Separation from the town by the A31 with no planned access on foot or by cycle - residents will have no choice but to drive for most of their daily needs into Alton via one access point. I hate to think what a potential further 2000+ cars would do to our already busy road network in Alton!!

I could go on for pages! Much of what I'm saying has already been said by many others, I have just listed the main points and the gist of my feelings towards the overdevelopment of Alton. Other sites in the county need to be considered, it's appalling that EHDC wants to add a further potential 4-6000 residents to town with a current population of 18,000 (1200 of which would be on Neatham Down) in such a restrictive location, and without any commitment to increasing services or, apparently, protection the countryside and wildlife.

I hope you are able to include my thoughts with the many others being expressed and that EHDC will think again, very seriously about its plans for our county and particularly the precious town of Alton.

(If you are able to add this to the Commonplace website, please do.) Please also acknowledge receipt of this email.

Thank you,

Regards



Holybourne Resident

[REDACTED] - Deer Leap, Rowlands Castle

Mon 26/02/2024 16:14

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

To whom it may concern

I am writing in relation to the proposed development of lands on both the north and south sides of Deer Leap which is in the centre of the village of Rowlands Castle. Having been a resident on The Green since 1997, I feel compelled to object strongly to both the proposals.

Over the years, I have been aware of how much more traffic is now using the road either side of the Green so much so I am unable to park anywhere around the Green on several occasions per week. I am 74 years of age and as a resident, feel I should be able to park somewhere in the vicinity of my house at [REDACTED]. I have contacted the appropriate authorities about this problem but to date no resolution/help has been forthcoming. It fills me with horror to think that even more traffic will be passing through the centre of the village on a regular basis should more houses be built so close to its centre.

I cannot see justification for causing more inconvenience to the present residents as both developments do very little to address the larger issue of providing much needed homes in the area. They will just increase congestion in the village centre.

There is also the question of protecting the environment. Deer Leap and its impressive flint wall are iconic in the village and part of its conservation. We need to protect the environment from unnecessary building developments or the character of the village will be changed forever. Our rural setting will be in danger of becoming/looking urbanised.

I can find no argument which justifies destroying the natural habitat which defines Deer Leap and a vital part of the village itself. I can only see it bringing more pollution in its many forms to our attractive rural setting.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Confirmation of my comments

Mon 04/03/2024 13:12

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Last week, I opened your website (which appeared to be working at the time), and left my comments. However, I was surprised that at the end, there was no way of logging out or clicking "Finish," so I am not sure whether you received my contribution, or not.

I therefore append my comments below, to make sure that you do indeed receive them:

" I am appalled that EHDC is giving serious consideration to the building of 1,000 houses on Neatham Down, and wish to record the strongest of objections to this plan.

Neatham Down is an area of outstanding natural beauty, which it would cease to be, if this plan were implemented. Living in Alton at the time, I understood future development to the south of the A31 was ruled out when the bypass was built in the 1970's, and to put 1,000 new houses in this area would open it up to creeping urbanisation over the years towards East Worldham, Binsted and Selborne. I believe the boundary of Alton, as represented by the A31 should be respected, and the development (if it really is needed) should be placed elsewhere.

Why is there a need for a "block" of 1,000 houses? Surely brownfield sites and empty "pockets" might be found in East Hampshire? Alton has already had thousands of new houses in recent years, and several developments, such as on the old brewery site, are ongoing. How many more do we really "need," or is it a happy arrangement between the developers and the Council?

This development, if it went ahead, would be a disaster for Alton, with little infrastructure and hugely increased traffic, plus increased pressure on schools, surgeries and other amenities.

PLEASE DO NOT GO AHEAD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEATHAM DOWN.

-

Upcoming housing plans

Mon 04/03/2024 13:55

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Good afternoon

I've just been reading the Local Plan Consultation.

Unfortunately we couldn't get to the event at Merchistoun Hall in Horndean recently.

We are very concerned about the housing developments that are proposed for Horndean, Clanfield area, south of Butser.

Several years ago, there was the Land East of Horndean. We attended all the meetings and exhibitions. We were told that a development of 800 houses, a school, local retail, places to eat and drink, and a community centre would be built.

We were told that the development would mean there would be no infilling in other parts of Clanfield and Horndean. That was good to hear, for the future of both settlements.

But, the new plans propose 8 developments across the area in addition to Land East of Horndean. Some building has started.

These 8 developments are going to add 543 more properties across the area.

That will mean a total of over 1300 properties being built in the area across all developments.

In the newer plans, there are no associated services planned to support new housing and people living there. How can Horndean and Clanfield support them?

And, very importantly, there is no new Doctors Surgery planned in Horndean, where most of the new development is.

We may have a relatively new Surgery, but it wasn't built in a good place, and not much bigger than previous one, and not good for accessibility, with a small car park, that Post Office customers use as well.

Also, it won't be able to cope with increasing numbers living locally, they struggle now.

Also, how can the roads in Horndean cope with extra traffic up and down Catherington Lane and Five Heads Road (very narrow and dangerous by One Stop).

These plans have to be thought about, the area will be swamped, with congestion everywhere, and not enough facilities.

Neatham Down proposal ALT 8

Fri 01/03/2024 19:09

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

I wish to protest strongly about the inappropriate proposal.

It is far in excess of EHDC' s requirements to build new homes.

It will build on productive farmland against the government's policy of "Brownfield First".

It's access to Alton is problematical. The roundabout on the A31 access point is already blocked at busy times with traffic queueing back from the new lights on Montecchio Way, and will create a real traffic hazard for the faster traffic on the A31. By foot it must be about 45 minutes across the road by footbridge, through the industrial estate etc. and also unsuitable for Affordable Housing for access reasons.

It is actually in Binsted Parish and is entirely inappropriate in size and location for a rural parish, and will destroy the rural character of the area.

There are a multitude of other good and obvious reasons - I am surprised that you have put it forward in the first place.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[REDACTED] - Local Plan - Development -Bordon

Mon 04/03/2024 17:02

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Regarding the above heading, please ONLY build 667 houses, provide free parking in and around Town Centre to AVOID parking on local roads/pavements. Plant Trees - Do NOT CUT DOWN TREES. Encourage more frequent Buses. Provide more individual shops. Build Only 2 Storey Flats or Build 3 Storey Flats - Do NOT BUILD any Taller Buildings. Provide some open spaces with METAL Seats, which cannot be damaged by a minority of individuals, but for people to sit for a while, under trees, provide bins for litter. Build a Cinema. Build a Morrison Supermarket. Mend Potholes on the local roads. Make small areas of shrubs to soften the appearance of increased buildings. Build a row of garages close to houses/Flats.

The above stated suggestions to enhance Bordon and soften ONLY 667 Houses/Flats.

-Re: Automatic reply: Local Plan - Development -Bordon

Mon 04/03/2024 17:12

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

My email is in response to EHDC Local Plan and contains suggestions with regard to Local Plan for the Benefit of the Residents in Bordon and Whitehall. Lindford should Not be forgotten and should have a Councillor who could request any improvements for residents paying Council Tax.

On Mon, 4 Mar 2024, 17:02 EHDC - Local Plan, <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk> wrote:

Thank you for contacting East Hampshire District Council Planning Policy Team.

If your email is a response to our Draft Local Plan consultation, please consider this email an acknowledgement of your consultation response. Please note that personal information provided will be processed in line with our [service privacy notice](#).

If your email is an enquiry for the Planning Policy Team, we aim to respond to your email within 7 working days.

If you are requesting information from East Hampshire District Council under the Freedom of Information Act, Environmental Information Regulations, or Data Protection Act then please re-direct your email to info-requests@easthants.gov.uk

Any statutory timeframe for a response will not commence until the request is received by the council as detailed above.

To keep up to date with any developments on our Local Plan you can sign up for email alerts via the Council's webpage:

(<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKEHDC/subscriber/new>).

East Hampshire local plan

Thu 29/02/2024 13:09

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear planners,

I write to register comments on the above plan.

I have looked at the online document, but have found it extremely un-userfriendly, in that the questions are so specific that it is very difficult and time-consuming to find the areas on which one wishes to comment. There is also the issue that people with little time (I'm retired so probably have more time than working people) are going to give up trying to wrestle with it. In addition, anyone without access to online facilities is automatically excluded from this process.

The tier system of allocating quotas for housing causes great concern. Alton is expected to absorb 1700 houses, much higher than other areas: this seems disproportionately high, and will cause significant detriment to the local environment, communications and infrastructure. Alton might not be in the national park, but the local environment nevertheless has vulnerabilities, particularly with regard to flooding and drainage, and the source of the River Wey. In addition, downland and the natural environment (just one example, the local hare population) would be under threat from development of farmland - not to mention the loss of valuable agricultural land.

I hope that the above will be taken into account.

Yours faithfully,

Chapter 3 Objection: Neatham Down

Fri 01/03/2024 14:43

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

- Alton's infrastructure is already stretched way beyond capacity.
- All GP surgeries are oversubscribed and the NHS dentists have huge waiting lists.
- It will mean approximately 2000 more cars on the roads – an area prone to surface water flooding and congestion already.
- Increase in cars means a huge increase in traffic on Alton's roads, on an ongoing basis. And a safety risk.
- The fertile agricultural land is needed to produce food for the country's growing population. Not more housing!
- An increase in carbon emissions will happen during the construction phase.
- Loss of biodiversity and beautiful countryside – the area is home to do many species, including skylarks, yellowhammers and spotted flycatchers (all on the Red List for Birds, 2021), and hares, deer, red kites and buzzards. I regularly walk the countryside.
- The site is virgin agricultural land and therefore this proposal is against current Conservative Housing policy - this states that building on brownfield sites, preferably urban, should be prioritised.
- EHDC have not been able to share a full assessment of the larger site – the draft local plan has been based on assessment made in 2019 of a site proposing 600 acres which was approximately 1/3 of the size of this site. The evidence base for the new much larger site is lacking in the draft plan. What is EDHC thinking?
- Ground water flood risks are likely to increase as our climate changes.
- Impact to the rural character of the landscape, which is very close to the South Downs National Park (SDNP) boundary and is clearly part of the Park's setting.
- The site will be visible to large parts of the surrounding district and from various points inside the South Downs National Park, including public rights of way.

Please ... no more buildings

[REDACTED]

Fri 01/03/2024 18:31

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Looking at the local plan (as far as I understand it), it looks like we are to have a further 600-700 buildings, which are already in the pipeline as per previous plans. I sincerely wish they weren't, but I can't do much about that now.

For the future LOCAL PLANS ... can you just stop building more and more houses around Bordon and Whitehill. We haven't the infrastructure to support what we have now, let alone having more. I know people say that more housing is needed, but if there aren't the associated medical, school, dental, recreational, travel, etc, improvements then all you are building is an area of frustrated and angry people. Let Bordon and Whitehill grow their amenities to complement their existing residents before starting to listen to the developers who only have their pockets in mind.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - EHDC draft local plan 2021-2040

Tue 05/03/2024 19:24

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs

I fully support the allocated housing in the Alton area of 1700 dwellings. Alton already has facilities and infrastructure to build on and support new housing there, when compared to Whitehill & Bordon. It is a traditional market town, has a train station, pretty good bus links to major towns like Winchester and Basingstoke, Community Hospital, sixth form college and much larger Leisure Centre. [Alton Household Waste & Recycling Centre is also currently not under consultation for closure/reduction, as Bordon is.]

The local plan proposes 667 homes for Bordon and Whitehill, to be delivered by 2040 - this in addition to the 2400 homes given planning permission of which about 1900 have yet to be built. In contrast, the Alton area is now proposed to take 1700 extra homes - just over two-and-a-half times as many as Whitehill & Bordon. I feel this is justified, based on their level of facilities and infrastructure.

I am also told of a further 1073 proposed to go elsewhere in the district.

Therefore, Whitehill & Bordon is proposed to take 667 out of the 3440 total, which is 19.4%. We feel this is a fair number when looked at in this overall context and support the local plan allocations across the district.

We are concerned that any increase in housing may stretch vital facilities and infrastructure must match growth. We support the 'requirements' outlined, but express concern that the Health Hub proposed for Whitehill and Bordon is not yet 100% confirmed and thus need to ensure there is adequate medical provision if the Health Hub does not get built [e.g. from Chase Hospital] with the Local Plan acknowledging this. We would like to see a requirement supporting public transport e.g. via S106, as this is crucial for our community, especially where we have no train station.

We understand that the new Whitehill and Bordon Town Centre development is happening in its current location because that is where the MOD land became available. However, having a shopping area in the original Town Centre area of Bordon is extremely important in serving residents in this part of town. We also support regenerating the Forest Centre offering and ensuring shops remain open in that part of Bordon.

I hope you will take the above into consideration when making your decisions. Bordon and Whitehill are over-run with housing and inadequately supported with infrastructure in its current state. It will be ill-advised to plan more housing when there is such low support to go along with it.

Yours sincerely

Response to Local Plan 2024

Sun 03/03/2024 15:20

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I agree with the excellent documents produced by Fight4FourMarks and the submission from the Medstead and Four Marks Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and their comments to improve the Local Plan

I support in general the draft Local Plan which has a logical layout and sensible way for residents to make comments which my husband will be using

The total number of homes is excessive as the numbers are now "advisory" and the effect of the SDNP on land available in the district is not acknowledged by Government

The new settlement hierarchy method is an improvement but Four Marks/ South Medstead belongs in the new tier 4 not tier 3 and the sites allocated should be seriously reviewed and preferably removed. This area has been over developed with "urban Style estates" and more are being processed or about to be proposed and are unsustainable and have low accessibility

The new proposed settlement boundaries would allow more unwanted and unsustainable building in the countryside

Surface water flooding is a major issue particularly along Lymington Bottom, the valley of the historic river Lym which floods with heavy rain a situation more apparent in recent years and likely to become worse with global warming. There are several developments which will increase this risk and should not be approved

"Land behind 46 Lymington Bottom" awaiting appeal decision

"Land North East of Belford House" (behind 87 Lymington Bottom) down the middle of which is the major tributary of the Lym, currently flooded. Application submitted.

"Land behind 103 Blackberry Lane" Application Submitted. On steep slope and will exacerbate flows along the tributary of the Lym

"New care home in grounds of Belford House" currently subject to public comment. The original care home was flooded in 2014 and the new large building will increase surface flooding risk

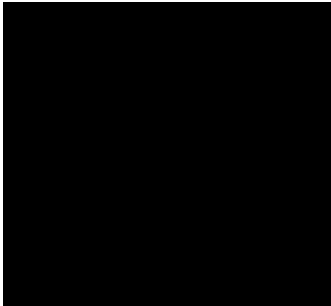
"Land behind 135 Winchester Road" known locally as "Barn Lane" application submitted. But the same situation pertains as on the adjacent recent developments with foundations affecting the drainage through the "clay Cap" on top of the chalk and causing flooding

The village is relieved that Four Marks South large site is not contemplated but concerned that speculative applications by the developers of the constituent sites will be forthcoming

It is concerning that the Alton Town Plan seems to favour Windmill Hill Farm site, to which not surprisingly the local residents object and access would be problematic

The best and possibly only feasible large site is Neatham Manor Farm which I am sorry to see has an on line protest movement and banners around Alton. While it is very regrettable to have to allocate farm land in the countryside for building this site has a good existing access from the A3 at the Holybourne roundabout and is sustainable due to its proximity to Alton and access by road as well as by foot and cycle using the existing footbridge and footpaths. The mainline railway station, 6 large supermarkets, schools , shops, many pubs and the sports centre and work places are in easy reach and can be car free. Provided the infrastructure is in place first and with a primary school and some shops as the first homes are built it should flourish as a community. Its proximity to the main sewage treatment works which is down hill and down wind from the site is a bonus and as mentioned in the plan the land adjacent to the works should be retained for the expansion required to deal with more housing and to prevent pollution of the River Wey by discharges

I am puzzled as to the strong opposition as recorded in the comments on the on line Local Plan consultation as no current residents would be inconvenienced or affected during build out and green areas and the footpaths are to be preserved and hopefully enhanced. This is the best site for a large development and entirely in accordance with the tier 1 status of Alton



Re: Blocks on commenting on the local plan

[REDACTED]
Thu 07/03/2024 14:57

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

And to add Commonplace have said that they will reply to my request to add comments "within 2 days" by which time the consultation will be closed. How do you plan to manage this. [REDACTED]

On 7 Mar 2024, at 14:55, [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear EHDC, I have been blocked from adding comments on the local plan because I have reached "my limit". How on earth can there be a limit on the number of comments I can make - given that I can only comment on each element once.

This is clearly unacceptable and a breach of the duty of the EHDC to provide an opportunity for all residents to contribute.

Yours.

[REDACTED]
Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: I've reached my limit on ehdclocalplan
Date: 7 March 2024 at 14:52:57 GMT
To: support@commonplace.is

Hello Commonplace Team

I've reached my limit on Commonplace. I'm not sure why?

I'd like to continue using Commonplace. Here's why:

I have more comments to add and not allowing me to make them is a clear breach of the public consultation rules.

Opening a Debate About Causes and Potential Solutions to Global Warming

[Redacted]

Tue 27/02/2024 15:40

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

📎 7 attachments (15 MB)

Opening a Debate about Causes and Solutions to Climate Change.pdf; Hinkley Point C nuclear power station - Wikipedia.pdf; scho0610bsot-e-e.pdf; scho0610bsou-e-e.pdf; sub-chapter_1.1_-_introduction_1.pdf; sub-chapter_1.2_-_general_description_of_the_unit_0.pdf; uk_epr_gda_submission_master_list.pdf;



CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear sirs,

having just presented a part of the above titled paper to your local plan, I hereby attach a full copy. If anyone wishes to meet with me to discuss any aspect, face to face, simply let me know and I will be only too pleased to attend any meeting you may have in mind. I have also attached copies of the details of the Hinkley Point cooling systems which no doubt you will find support my claims made in my paper.

Quote from the Executive Summary of one of them:

"Cooling water is required to remove "waste heat" from power stations regardless of whether the stations are nuclear or conventional. A nuclear power station has a typical thermal efficiency of 25-33% (compared to around 40% for a modern coal-fired station) and hence a 1,000 megawatt electric (MWe) nuclear station would typically generate up to 2,000 megawatts of low-grade waste heat. The reasons for this apparent wastage are explained. The report also explores cooling water options for new reactors and evaluates their potential environmental impacts in terms of effects on biota, and thermal, chemical and radionuclide pollution. The findings are focused on, but not confined to, nuclear plants and will have general applicability to other large (above 1,000 MWe) thermal power station projects"

A nuclear power station is less efficient than an old fashioned Coal powered one, as shown above, up to 75% of the nuclear heat energy created may be delivered to the surrounding sea, and I take no pleasure from having to show you just how out of touch with the truth of the global heat source is the concept of Net-Zero.

Yours sincerely,

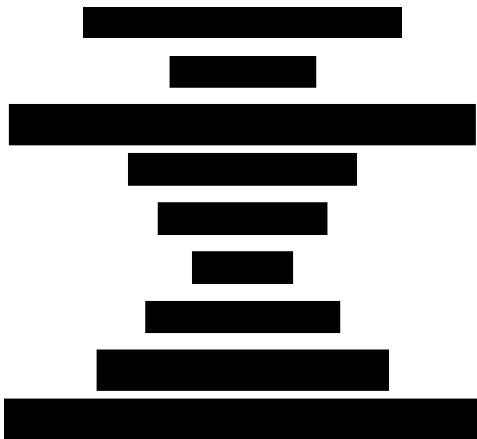
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Opening A Debate About Causes

and

Potential Solutions to Global Warming



██████████ is an Internationally recognised inventor
A completely independent critical thinker
Author; The Road Ahead from a Grass Roots Perspective

This paper combines several others previously created to deliver a solution

My 2012 paper; The Arctic Ice is Melting, We Must Face Facts, acknowledged by then Prime Minister, David Cameron, set out to highlight the concerns of climate scientist's about the stability of the Greenland Ice Sheet. My concern then, even more so now, is that we need to also understand the implications of the book; Earth's Shifting Crust, by Charles Hapgood, Foreword by Albert Einstein, which sets out in great detail how changes to ice levels above sea level, disturb the dynamics of the rotation of the planet, which cause the surface crust of the planet to slide. That ice ages were not caused by temperature change, they are caused by the surface slide.

A good example being, during the last so called ice age, the North Pole was located between Hudson Bay and the Southern tip of Greenland. The NASA Grace FO satellite system was designed to monitor such movement, but they have not publicly reported movement of the poles for the last 8 years. Why not?

With now seeming rapid changes in temperature, it surely behoves all of us to realise that, as we are losing massive quantities of ice above sea level, there has to be a point where we may once again experience another such shift.

It is my opinion, that we may be very close to such an event.

In which case, the idea of concentrating upon Carbon and Methane levels from cow farts, wastes precious time; that instead, we must concentrate upon identifying the source of the heat input to the atmosphere, and make necessary changes to our strategy for research, to seek sources of energy that do not require the use of heat engines.

If we experience both a collapse of the Greenland ice sheet and a crust shift, then humanity will experience a double burden, from which many will not survive.

For these reasons I have added the original report; Arctic Ice is Melting, we must face facts, plus a short paper regarding the tremendous energy inputs, from a single location, to the Greenland ice sheet from melt water flowing from the upper surface; both of which are reducing the base support for the mass of ice above the Greenland surface; which will drive a collapse of the ice sheet above.

Also the latest NASA reports regarding the Arctic and also the Antarctic ice losses.

With respect, cow farts are the least of our concerns.

██████████ FRSA

Heat Engines; NOT CO² are the Climate problem

Within my lifetime the majority of vehicles powered by either petrol or diesel were produced, as also Coal, oil and Nuclear power stations; and it is that aspect of this debate that has been, dare I say it, suppressed. We need to understand that our weather related problems have nothing to do with CO²; instead it is entirely caused by vehicles, and the associated production of electricity; because almost all such energy is produced by what are known as “Heat Engines”.

Burn a litre of petrol, or diesel, or produce electricity by such as nuclear power, all of the energy production is trammelled by the limitations of an inefficient heat to energy cycle of roughly 35%, (give or take a few percent depending upon the particular mechanism; piston engines in vehicles; steam turbines in power stations). The balance of the heat created is immediately distributed back into the surrounding atmosphere, even more so into the sea from many Nuclear power stations.

Not to forget that ALL the energy created in any form of heat engine, always becomes heat eventually; the vehicle by movement, and braking, the electricity by distribution and the production of other forms of heat. All energy burnt/created within the heat engines eventually becomes a heat input to the planets atmosphere.

Not wanting anyone to try burning litres of petrol in their garden, instead we need someone to set into motion a video demonstration of, say, a six lane motorway full of vehicles each travelling at, say, 90 kilometres an hour, above each showing an vivid illustration of the fuel being burnt, ~ 8 litres per hour, above each vehicle. Now take 1,495 billion vehicles including trucks
<https://hedgescorpany.com/blog/2021/06/how-many-cars-are-there-in-the-world/>

In point of fact; all the energy used by the vehicle heats the atmosphere. How much fossil fuel energy is produced each year? The 2021 figure is 135,923 terawatt-hours. Again, go back to 1950 and the figure was 20,139 terawatt-hours. So since 1950 fossil fuel heat input to the atmosphere has increased 6.75 times. <http://www.Ourworldindata.org/fossil-fuels> Now add Nuclear power.

THAT is the primary problem that it would seem no one wants to fully illustrate; then add the nuclear, (because we are being told that nuclear is the answer to global warming, (by changing all heat engine vehicles into electric vehicles), when in fact nuclear is just another form of heat engine, producing heat to create steam to power steam turbines; to drive generators; as also all the research into fusion power, is again, all about another form of heat engine, to again create steam to power turbines to generate electricity.

Fact: The electrical generating efficiency of standard steam turbine power plants varies from a high of 37% HHV4 for large, electric utility plants designed for the highest practical annual capacity factor, to under 10% HHV for small, simple plants which make electricity as a byproduct of delivering steam to processes or district heating systems. <https://www.turbinesinfo.com/steam-turbine-efficiency/>

Please, do not be confused with the thermodynamic efficiency of a steam turbine of up to 90%, which no doubt matches the thermodynamic efficiency of the combustion of petrol within any modern petrol engine. We are always dealing with the entire mechanical process of energy generation, heat in one end, energy out at the other.

The total of which **always** introduces up to 63% heat loss to the atmosphere.

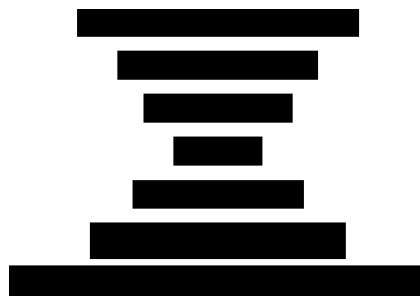
My Proposal

To create a new, Fully Independent

GRAVITY AND ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Exploring beyond the horizon
To reach a much wider field of creative critical thinkers

September 29th, 2023



The overall concept

You cannot gain access to new thinking without stepping outside of existing convention. But science today tends to reject the unconventional regardless of its merits. We need a new form of research institute that will stretch out to take input from unconventional thinkers. In the past, it was the pioneering work of the innovators of our early industrial society, for example the iron and steel maker's rich imaginations that laid the foundations for the industrial revolution. Much later, science followed in their footsteps to better explain the new alloys already discovered by those pioneers.

We have to recognise the value of free thinking and create at least one research institution that will emulate the original pioneers of the past centuries. There are always unconventional thinkers; we have to bring them into a structured institute that will allow them to thrive and succeed.

That is one of my own personal aiming points, to create such an institute to harbour and encourage those in our communities that are capable of original thought, but lie outside of the existing framework.

I believe that if carefully thought through and properly funded on a long term basis, there will be much to gain from such an exercise.

(35.4 A final thought; The Universe is a Steady State Cloud of Surplus Proton Energy 2023)

My proposal will create a fully independent Gravity and Energy Research Institute; located where it will be seen as ensuring to bring together the very best minds and associated skills to address the challenges we face.

Immediate aiming points

1. Purchase a suitable temporary headquarters, workshops and laboratories. This will ensure that there is the minimum delay in starting to ensure a rapid acceleration of the required research and development.
2. Bring together the initial group of both academics and highly skilled artisans, who will work closely together to build the physical and intellectual foundations of their new institution.
3. In the meantime investigate a suitable permanent location for the new institution to ensure that national planners are in agreement for the ongoing establishment and long term aiming points set out herein. Set into motion the purchase of the land and any existing buildings.
4. Commence construction of the main Institutional buildings.
 - Offices
 - Library
 - Research laboratories
 - Workshops

Importantly, these new constructs will be of the highest level architecture; they will be designed to emulate any existing independent research establishment.

In addition, it is intended to also create associated art and craft schools to underpin the long term aiming point for the provision of younger employees.

Again, there will also be the purchase of local farm land to provide opportunities for agricultural research and associated production of food.

Eventually it is expected that the institution will serve to create a wider community that will bring further prosperity, not only locally, but especially; nationally.

To ensure long term financial stability, as this proposal must succeed, from the outset; funding of €500M will be required.

Proposed deadline for initial agreement for funding; January 2024.

Arctic Ice is melting We must fact facts

Arctic is melting much faster than forecast; raising important questions for populations presently located close to sea level. The Southern tip of Greenland, (over most of which lays an ice sheet up to 3Km thick), is at the same latitude as Northern Scotland. Now observations show us the Arctic Ocean, North of Greenland, may be ice free in summer months before 2018. The scientific community are sending a strong signal. We may be about to face a sudden rise in sea levels that will, eventually, inevitably, permanently displace industry and populations living close to sea level; which may, in time, rise 60m.

The whole planet will lose the use of all sea ports, no delivery of crude oil, no petrol and diesel and with many electricity generating stations close to sea level, a severe reduction of electricity supply. Loss of farmland and fuel will disrupt food distribution. During the early stages, sea levels may only rise a few feet, we might cope; but if sea levels continue to inexorably rise from then onwards, we will face more and more difficulties as we lose much larger areas to the sea. Over the longer term, we therefore face the prospect of a massive world wide relocation of everything close to sea level.

We must look at the implications; what areas of land are vulnerable? What industries will be most affected? Where do we relocate the displaced populations and associated industries? What plans are in place to control the displacement? What do we need to do to cover the short term needs of the displaced populations?

It is clear to me that every scientist involved with the debate herein illustrated is deeply concerned about the long term implications for the rest of the planet. However, anyone familiar with the scientific community will also understand their reluctance to spread their own concerns towards the worst case implications. On the other hand, as an inventor; I am not restricted by scientific conventions that preclude a much wider point of view. It is that viewpoint that I am setting out herein.

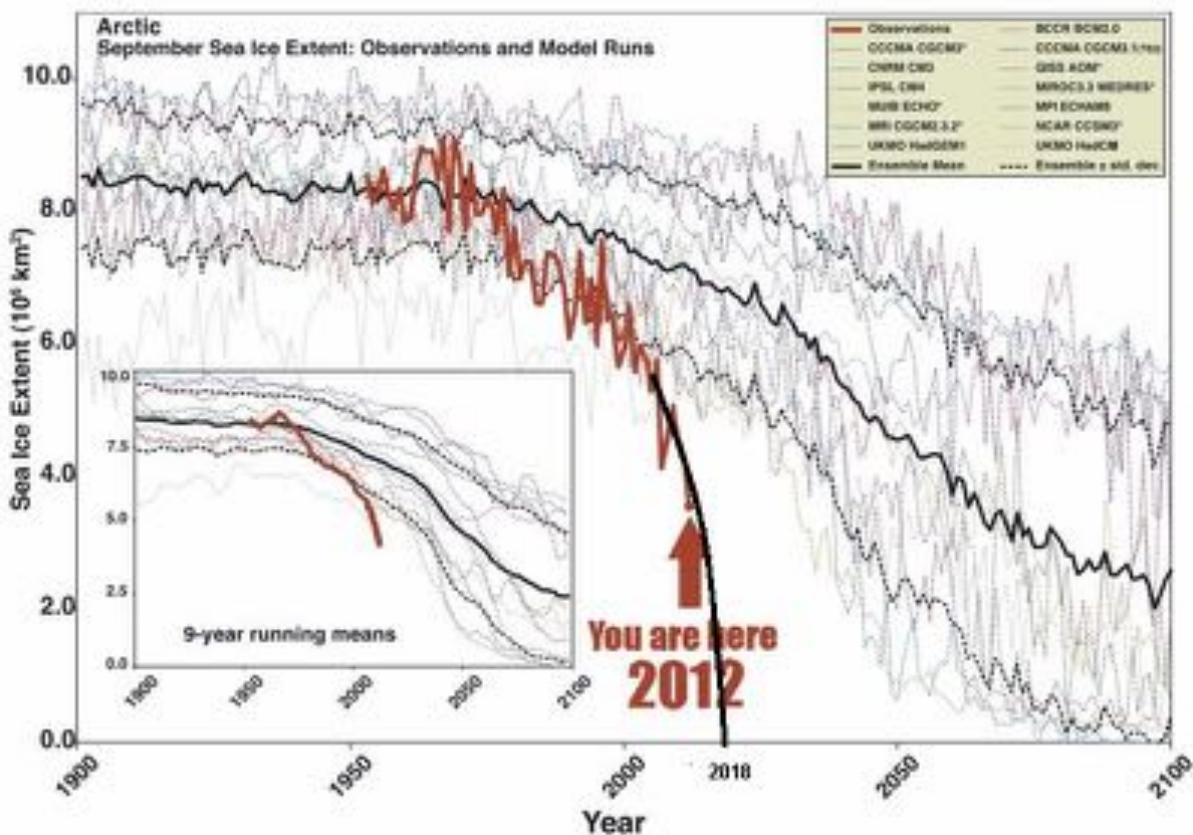
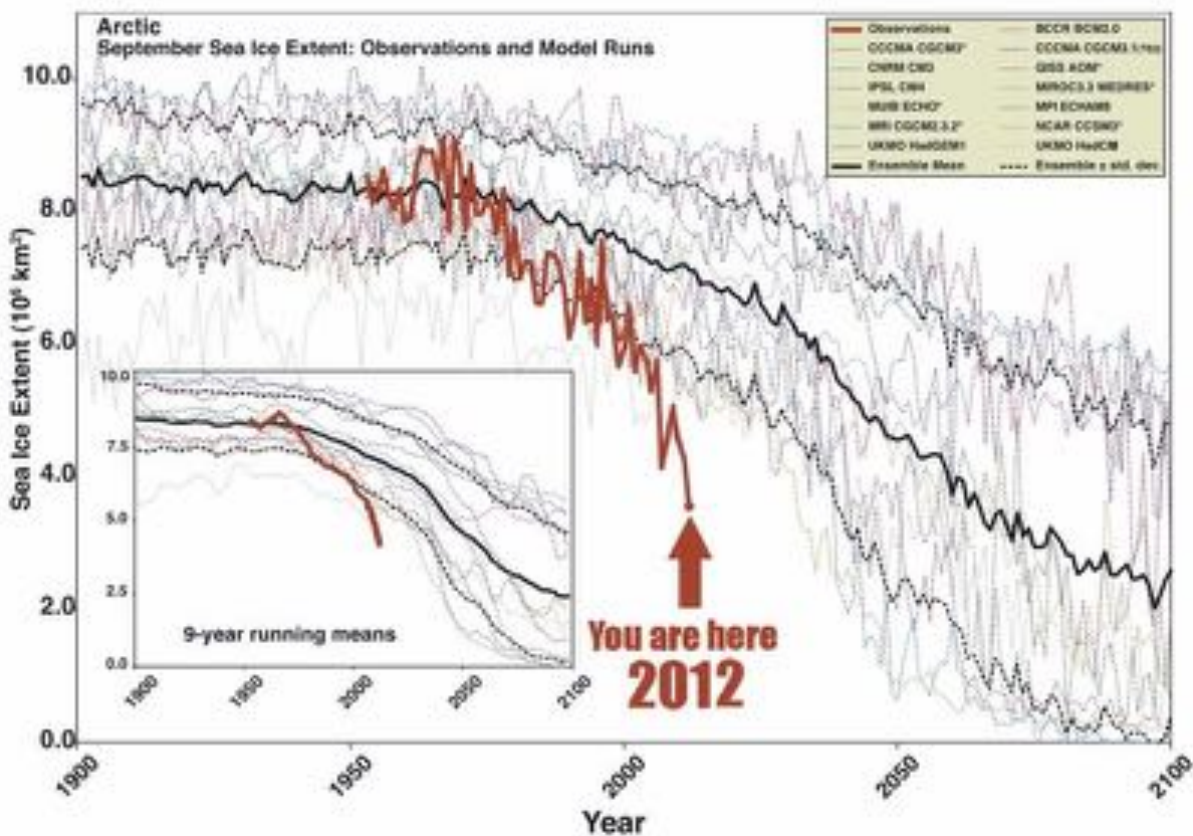
These are entirely my thoughts about what I sincerely believe will occur over a very short timescale; and the actions we must take now to protect the British nation.

Being a citizen of the English County of Hampshire, I wrote this paper with the County's significant industrial coastline in mind. However, the contents may be as applicable to any other region on the planet with a similar coastal population.

██████████

Medstead

September 2012



Note: The same graph with my extension of the **observations** (NOT Computer models), extrapolated to show the **median date** for complete Arctic ice melt may be as soon as 2018. (Taken from **Models are improving; but can they catch up?**) See below.

Prologue

Observations made during 2012 show that Arctic Sea Ice is melting much faster than originally forecast. This paper is produced to facilitate a better understanding of the implications; particularly for populations presently located close to sea level.

Recent debate discovered on the internet leads me to believe that the Arctic Ice is melting very much more rapidly than any previous forecast. In which case, we have to recognise the implications and plan for them; particularly for Counties such as Hampshire, which have major sea ports and substantial industry and associated populations located close to sea level.

A sudden sea level rise of between 50 and 170 feet caused by the Antarctic ice sheet sliding into the sea has been proposed in a Scientific American article published February 2008. Unquiet Ice Speaks Volumes on Global Warming. But that article was extrapolating events in Antarctica and was not making any reference to the Arctic Ice melting.

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=the-unquiet-ice>

It is a well known fact that if the Greenland ice sheet melts, sea levels will rise by ~ 20 feet. “A complete melt of the ice sheet would raise sea levels globally by about 7m, but it could take centuries for this to occur.” <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-19095069>

In the latter case, you will see there is a belief that, even in the worst case scenario, the Greenland ice sheet might very well not totally melt for at least the next several centuries.

Except that when you read the underlying debate regarding this year’s rapid ice melt observations, they show us that everything the scientific community thought they knew about ice melting and the underlying mechanisms; are being completely revised. We may be about to face totally unprecedented circumstances; a sudden rise in sea levels that will, inevitably, permanently displace industry and populations living close to sea level.

When sea levels rise, we will lose the use of all sea ports, with loss of the delivery of crude oil being the most obvious, and that such events in turn may also cause a loss of access to energy supplies such as petrol and diesel and with many electricity generating stations being positioned close to sea level for cooling water access, we may also be left with a severe reduction of our electricity supply.

Such events would also seriously disrupt our food production and distribution networks and as such, we will also need to think through the implications and the measures that will need to be in place to alleviate distress so caused.

This note is produced to give some detail, which in turn will set out what additional measures need to be considered for the alleviation of the potential difficulties we will all face.

It is surely better to open this debate now so that everyone can; settle down to the reality; get to grips with their role and have learned what needs to be done to keep everyone safe; than to wait until sea levels start to rise and we are then faced with a totally disorganised panic?

Opening the debate.

The starting point for this debate requires that everyone interested in getting up to speed with these matters take some considerable time to read the information that is available. For that reason I have set out below, some of the internet web sites that make for a compelling read. However, I will start with a radio interview of Dr. Jennifer Francis of Rutgers University that was posted on the internet September 19th.

Please note: Each reference opens with the title, may include indented detail, (**some highlighted by me**), with the web link to the originating web page at the end of each item.

Some of these web pages include a substantial debate with many links to other equally compelling information. You will need to read it all to gain a full understanding of the implications for the rest of the planet.

Arctic Sea Ice Cover and Extreme Weather Explained

Posted on [September 19, 2012](#) by [Andreas Muenchow](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

I just discovered an outstanding interview that Dr. Jennifer Francis of Rutgers University gave to a non-profit [community radio station](#) out of Vancouver, British Columbia.

[Jennifer Francis Interview 20120910](#)

She connects and explains global warming, its much amplified signal in the Arctic, the extreme record minimal Arctic sea ice cover this summer, and how the warming Arctic and its disappearing sea ice impacts our weather in the northern hemisphere by slowing down the atmospheric jet stream separating polar from mid-latitude air masses. She explains all of this in non-technical language without loss of accuracy

<http://icyseas.org/2012/09/19/arctic-sea-ice-cover-and-extreme-weather-explained/>

Arctic Sea Ice News and Analysis

Sea Ice updated daily with one day lag

Note: This is the daily record of the sea ice extent and includes an Arctic Sea Ice Extent graph and an image of the current ice extent surrounding the North Pole.

<http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/>

The Wet Side of Greenland

Note: Please pay particular attention to the radar images of Greenland that show the sudden change in albedo of the surface of the ice sheet and the wide ranging debate surrounding the implications for the changes observed this summer.

<http://neven1.typepad.com/blog/2012/07/the-wet-side-of-greenland.html>

Sea Ice Loss: What do the records mean?

Note: This is a very good example of the volume of discussion going on as I write. There is a lot to read that debates the original posting. Also a longer interview of Dr. Jennifer Francis. <http://neven1.typepad.com/blog/2012/09/sea-ice-loss-2012-what-do-the-records-mean.html>

Arctic News: An accounting is now due

Note: Please pay particular attention to the small map image at the top right hand of this posting that shows the location of the Greenland Ice Cap in relation to the Northern tip of Scotland. Then relate that to the earlier images taken on a daily basis that show us half of Greenland is almost completely surrounded by open water during the summer months and that the observations are concluding that Greenland will soon be completely surrounded by open water, RIGHT ACROSS the North Pole; at some point during the summer months.

“So, how now, for the ice and methane? Schweiger's Perils of Extrapolation piece clearly stated how PIOMAS shows September sea ice volumes having dropped by a breathtaking 75% over just the last few decades (1979-2011). It might even seem simple to deduce that ice-free minima would be arriving quite soon, given this. But it is, I would agree, a vastly complex situation. Fully coupled models - those that do not, like PIOMAS, leave out the atmosphere, the weather, etc., but that try to create a realistic world that can be run into the future -- **almost all suggest an eventual dampening effect on the underlying feedbacks leading to ice loss once it is mostly gone, thus leading to a long 'tail' of one or more decades in which a small amount of thinner summer ice remains, rather than an imminent disappearance, as both AMEG's Peter Wadhams and Wieslaw Maslowski, whose work Gore cited in his 2007 Nobel speech, have suggested.**

That dampening, however, isn't happening. One almost feels sorry for Gavin Schmidt at RealClimate these days. After [their latest sea ice update](#), he repeated in its comment thread how there is no reason to extrapolate PIOMAS into the future using an exponential curve (**which shows a collapse just a few years from now**). RealClimate wants to deal with the real underlying physical mechanisms involved, not just take some simple line that best fits the ice's past behavior and then extrapolate that line into the future. But, darn! The newest PIOMAS data [have just been released last week](#), and, again, that exponential curve is being eerily followed by the real world's sea ice! In fact, Wieslaw Maslowski has also developed a new model recently, a fully coupled model free from 'perilous extrapolations,' which shows much the same thing as his prior research -- **that a summer sea ice collapse is likely in the coming years, not decades.**

As you can see, the reasons for thinking that there isn't an arctic crisis are about as firm as cotton candy. Next you'll need to learn the more solid reasons for suspecting that there is one. Then, after that, the big questions -- What real climate perils could this entail? **What should we be doing about it right now?** -- are what one needs to turn to next.”

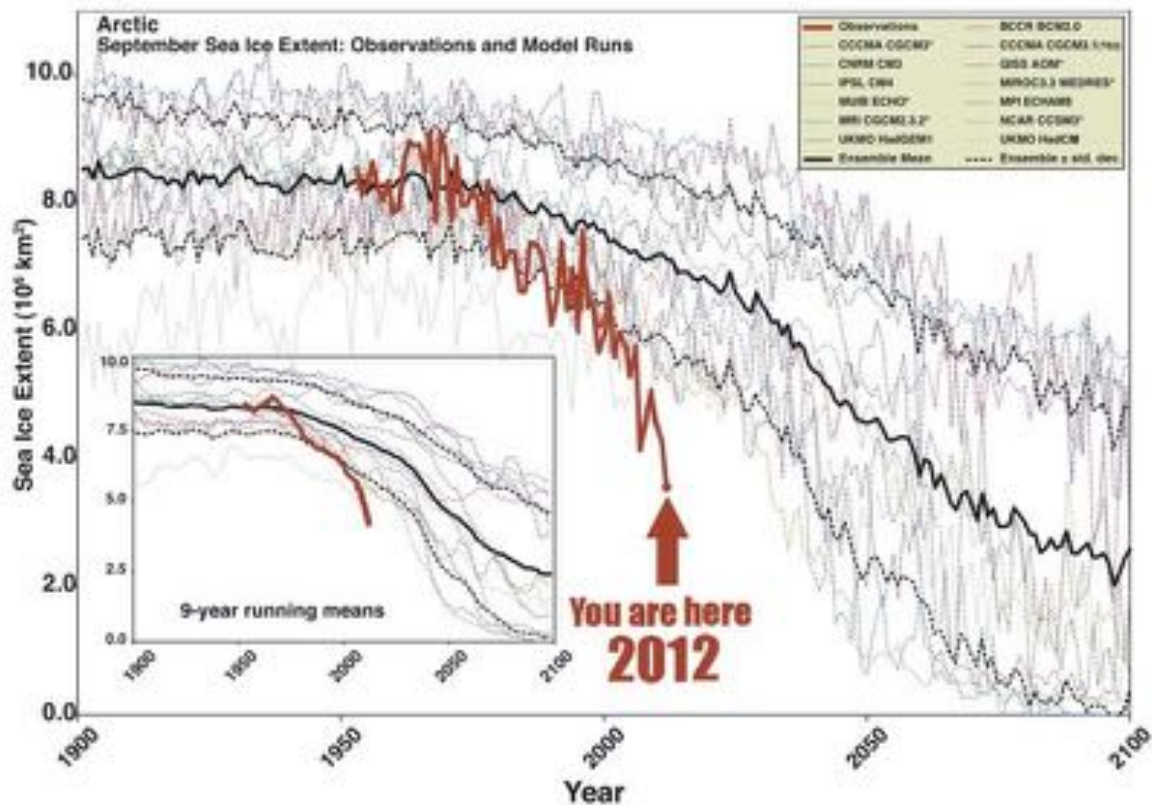
<http://arctic-news.blogspot.co.uk/2012/09/an-accounting-is-now-due.html>

Models are improving, but can they catch up

“All models are wrong, but some are useful, as the saying goes. However, when looking at how Arctic sea ice decline is modeled, one might be tempted to say that all sayings are useful, but some are wrong. To be fair, I should be the last person taking a piss at climate models. Hundreds of brilliant scientists, engineers and IT specialists are giving their best every day to make supercomputers come up with scenarios that project future changes. Unfortunately, there is no Planet B to experiment on.

But we have come to a point where fake skeptics show up in television programmes (such as last week's [BBC Newsnight](#)) and use modeled predictions for Arctic sea ice in the 2007 IPCC Fourth Assessment Report as an argument not to be worried about the disappearance of Arctic sea ice, because "none of them shows it melting before the year 2070 on a regular basis in the summer" (quote from UK Conservative MP Peter Lilley).

As always, they're not telling the whole story:



This image (taken from the [Climate Crocks](#) blog) comes from a [GRL research paper](#) by Stroeve et al. that was published in 2007, detailing how models that participated in the World Climate Research Programme [Coupled Model Intercomparison Project](#) Phase 3 (CMIP3) were doing compared to observations (red line). The 2011 dot was drawn in, based on NSIDC data on September 7th of last year. Commenter [Tim](#) took the liberty of drawing in the new 2012 record. **This picture saves us the 1000 words needed to explain how off models are when it comes to matching observations, which essentially makes their projections worthless.”**

<http://neven1.typepad.com/blog/2012/09/models-are-improving-but-can-they-catch-up.html>

Discussion:

We are facing the prospect of the Arctic, which is a large ocean with the North Pole at its centre; being completely ice free at some point during the summer months, within a decade; perhaps as early as within five years.

You will also become aware that there is considerable longer term concern about the rapid increase in the movement and associated calving of gigantic ice islands from the likes of both the Peterman Glacier in Greenland as well as Pine Island Glacier in Antarctica.

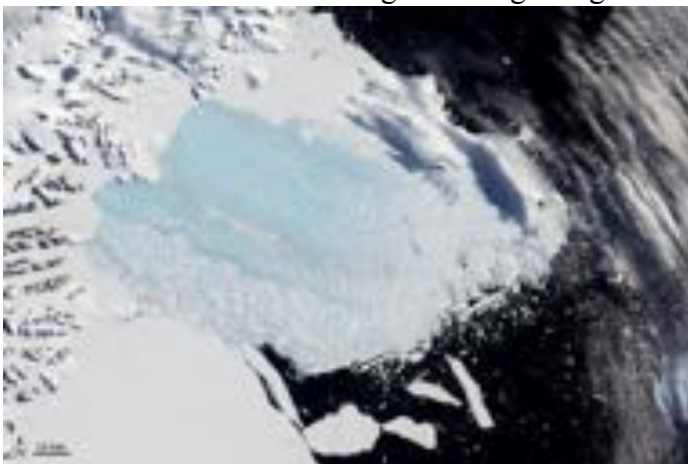
If these observations are correct, we face the certain prospect of a sudden sea level rise caused by both a rapid increase of ice melting and ice sliding into the sea from glaciers.

Yes, the first instinct is to relate to the point made at the beginning; that such events may take centuries to come into effect. I will instead argue that we already have good evidence that that may not be so. The first is common knowledge; ice can melt suddenly causing floods. Every one of us has had experience of that in the past. But there is a much more compelling event that gives us all a very clear example of just how fast ice can disappear.

World of Change: Collapse of the Larsen-B Ice Shelf

In the Southern Hemisphere summer of 2002, scientists monitoring daily satellite images of the Antarctic Peninsula watched in amazement as almost the entire Larsen B Ice Shelf splintered and collapsed in just over one month. They had never witnessed such a large area—3,250 square kilometers, or 1,250 square miles—disintegrate so rapidly.

Note: I well remember New Scientist the year before, (after the Larsen-A ice shelf had broken up), saying that if the Larsen-B ice shelf collapsed within the next 35 years we should be worried. Larsen-B collapsed within months of their making that statement. Take particular interest in the March 7th 2002 image showing a huge area has turned to liquid water.



<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/WorldOfChange/larsenb.php>

Note: With the greatest of respects, it is my opinion that we may be facing a rapidly collapsing Greenland ice sheet within the next decade. Why do I say that? We need to return to the discussions where they write about the increase of the albedo of the Greenland ice sheet. But now I must also add another aspect of this debate. Glider pilots are taught about Adiabatic Lapse rates; where as you rise through the atmosphere, the temperature decreases.

A couple of years ago I asked Scientific American to look again at their picture of a Moulin, a hole in the Greenland ice sheet down which a river was flowing. This is a Moulin.



Research team standing next to a Moulin
International Polar Foundation. Swiss camp and the Greenland Ice Sheet.

http://www.sciencepoles.org/multimedia/picture_gallery_detail/swiss_camp_and_the_greenland_ice_sheet/6/

Note: The diameter of the Moulin above will be relative to the size of the surface area drained, in this case, the flood area must have been very substantial indeed and the flow of melt water would have been as wide as the width of the Moulin.. The above flow is on the surface of the ice sheet, which rises to some 10,500 feet above sea level. So note the report this year that at the highest weather station they had days when the temperature was above 3 degrees C.

I pointed out to Scientific American that the adiabatic lapse rate also worked in reverse; if the temperature at 10,500 feet was above freezing, then as the surrounding air is drawn down into the Moulin, (by the falling flow of water travelled down into the ice), its temperature automatically rises. Over the full 10,500 feet, that rise is in the order of +30 degrees C. The air temperature would rise to European summer temperatures within the ice sheet if it were not for the ice surrounding the flow. However, instead, what happens is the ice adsorbs the heat and as such there is thus a considerable heat flow input to the underlying ice sheet.

A careful search will discover many images of the now vast numbers of lakes and rivers of liquid water on the summer surface of the Greenland Ice Sheet. Now consider that we have seen the albedo of the Greenland ice sheet is clearly rapidly decreasing, to look like this image below and note the date, this photograph was taken seven years ago.

Greenland Something Less Than Snow White

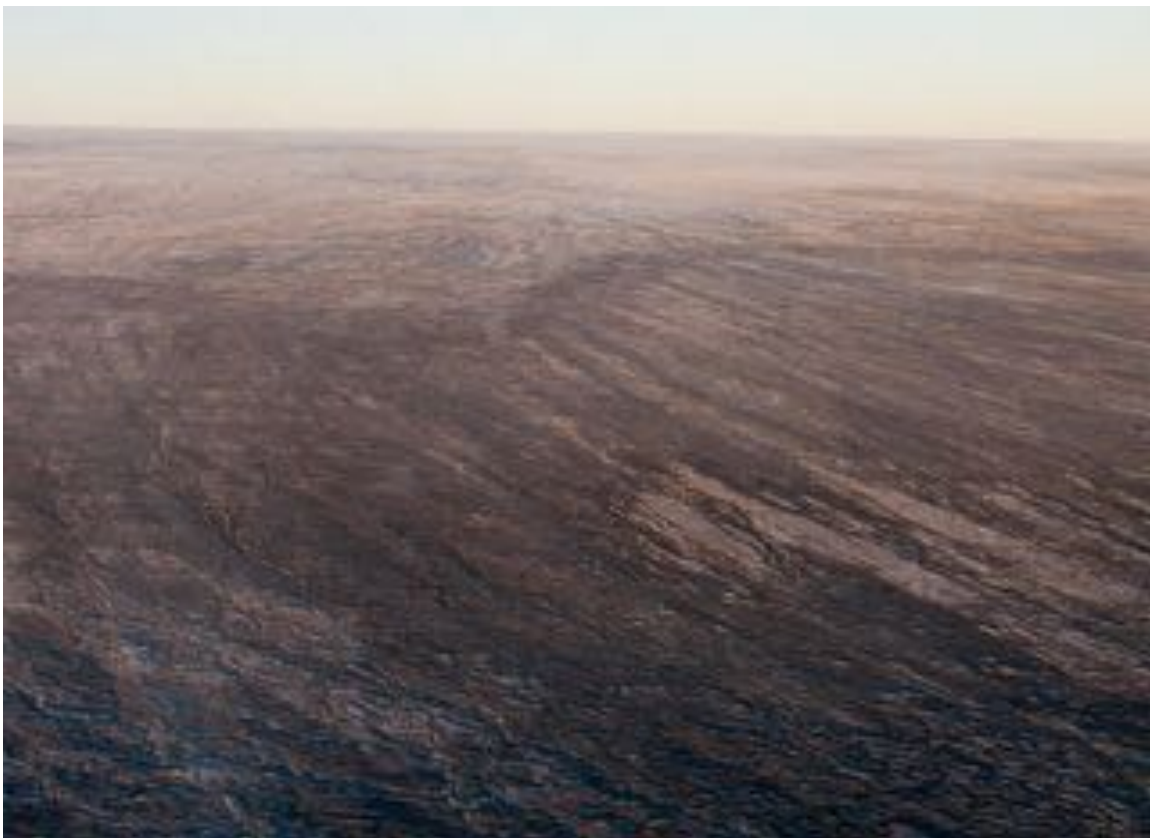


Photo [shot by Jason Box](#) on August 12, 2005

12 August 2005, 8 PM local time, Photo from a helicopter flying over the ice sheet surface at ~1500 feet altitude. This is how much darker the Greenland ablation area is than a fresh snow surface that blankets it in wintertime. Along much of the southwestern ice sheet at the lowest 1000 m in elevation, impurities concentrate near the surface and produce this dark surface. Not all of the ice sheet is this dark, only the lower ~1/3 of the elevation profile of the ice sheet is. However, as melting increases on the ice sheet, so does the area exposed that is this dark.

<http://climatecrocks.com/2012/07/03/greenland-something-less-than-snow-white/>



Map of changes in the percent of light reflected by the Greenland Ice Sheet in summer (June-July-August) 2011 compared to the average from 2000-2006. Virtually the entire surface has grown darker due to surface melting, dust and soot on the surface, and temperature-driven changes in the size and shape of snow grains. Map by NOAA's climate.gov team, based on NASA satellite data processed by Jason Box, Byrd Polar Research Center, the Ohio State University.

Note: This map above shows us that there are large areas of exposed rock which are not covered by any permanent ice cap, to the North and West of the Greenland ice sheet; particularly between the Greenland ice sheet and the at present permanent, but now rapidly melting ice floating on the Arctic Ocean to the North and the Greenland Sea to the East

<http://climatecrocks.com/2012/07/03/greenland-something-less-than-snow-white/>

Another factor contributing to darkening is aerosols, in particular soot (i.e. black carbon) from fires and combustion of fuel, dust and organic compounds that enter the atmosphere and that can travel over long distances and settle on ice and snow in the Arctic.

The July data since 2000, from the [meltfactor blog](#), suggest a exponential fall in reflectivity that, when projected into the future (red line, added by Sam Carana), looks set to go into freefall next year.

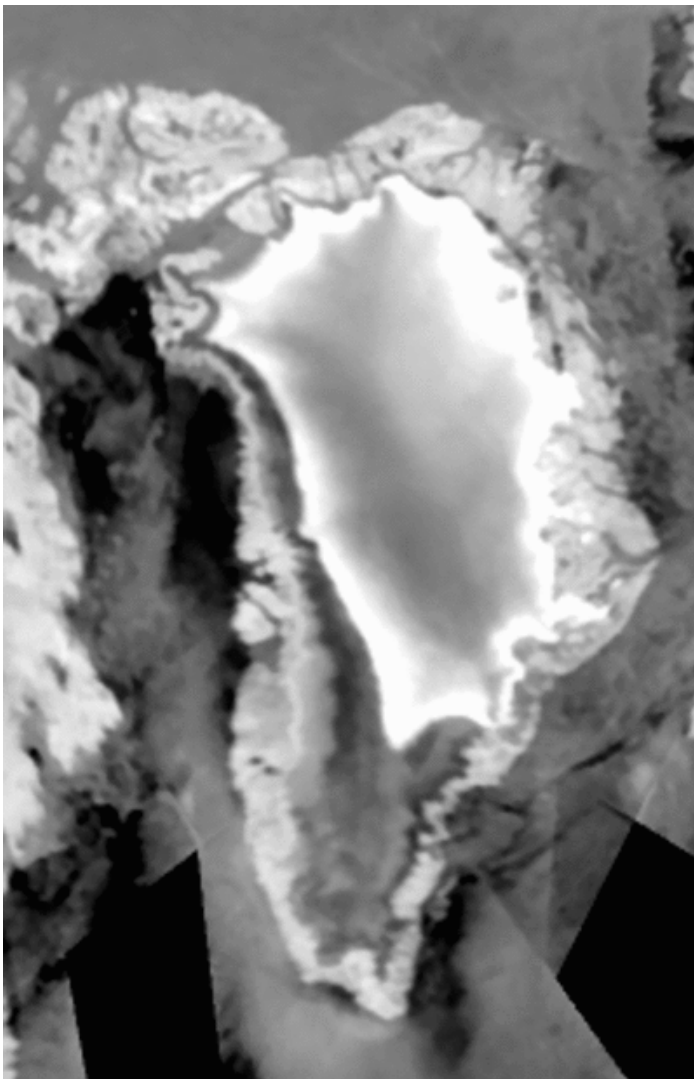
<http://arctic-news.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/greenland-is-melting-at-incredible-rate.html>

Note: (taken from **The Wet Side of Greenland**, page 4 above).

“One commentator on this blog mentioned that there'd been a big change in Greenland's appearance on the radar ASCAT images. I've puzzled over how to interpret these. So I decided to take the last 10 days and put them into an animated clip (my first animation effort, I have a ways to go to match Neven).

The results blew my mind and caused me to think the changes could relate directly to the sudden flooding...

Visually, the sudden change we see looks as though some internal ice dam in the ice sheet suddenly gave way and blew out the southern tip of the high-reflectance border. As though a balloon popped at the very bottom. It also looks like some outflow went out the KIV Steenstrups River.”



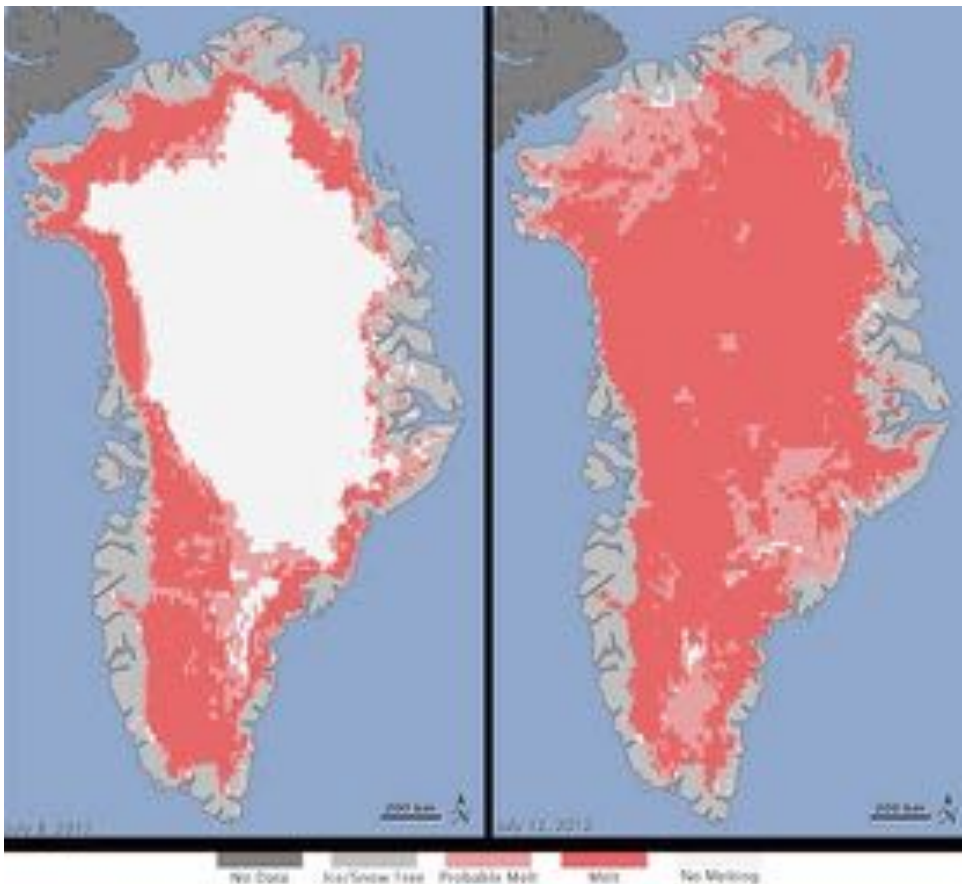
Note: This is one image taken from a sequence that will show how the entire surface albedo changed over a very short period; ten days. Again, note the lack of ice on rock surrounding the North and West of the Greenland ice sheet. Only Greenland has such an ice sheet in the Northern Hemisphere; this is the last remnant of the previous Ice Age, 10,000 years ago..

<http://imgur.com/GI5YS>

Satellites See Unprecedented Greenland Ice Sheet Surface Melt

July 24, 2012: For several days this month, Greenland's surface ice cover melted over a larger area than at any time in more than 30 years of satellite observations. Nearly the entire ice cover of Greenland, from its thin, low-lying coastal edges to its two-mile-thick center, experienced some degree of melting at its surface, according to measurements from three independent satellites analyzed by NASA and university scientists.

On average in the summer, about half of the surface of Greenland's ice sheet naturally melts. At high elevations, most of that melt water quickly refreezes in place. Near the coast, some of the melt water is retained by the ice sheet and the rest is lost to the ocean. But this year the extent of ice melting at or near the surface jumped dramatically. According to satellite data, an estimated 97 percent of the ice sheet surface thawed at some point in mid-July.



Extent of surface melt over Greenland's ice sheet on July 8 (left) and July 12 (right). Measurements from three satellites showed that on July 8, about 40 percent of the ice sheet had undergone thawing at or near the surface. In just a few days, the melting had dramatically accelerated and an estimated 97 percent of the ice sheet surface had thawed by July 12.

http://science.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2012/24jul_greenland/

Implications and Questions

If the Greenland Ice Sheet starts to suddenly collapse; then the implications for all the cities and towns located close to sea level must be addressed before the event. To leave this debate until the sea levels start to rise alarmingly would surely be a gross dereliction? We have no option but to look at the implications; before the ice melt rises to catastrophic levels.

The primary implication is the rise in sea levels will affect every nation in one way or another. Long term planning will be essential to ensure the ongoing safety of the people.

These questions herein reflect my perception of the needs of the United Kingdom; they are equally applicable to every other coastal nation; anywhere on the planet.

There are several questions that must be asked before we can take this debate any further.

What areas of land are vulnerable?

What industries will be most affected?

Where do we relocate the displaced populations and associated industries?

What plans are in place to control the displacement?

What do we need to do to cover the short term needs of the displaced populations?

What areas of land are vulnerable?

For the time being, we have to assume that during the early stages, sea levels may only rise a few feet. At first sight, we might believe we could easily cope; but if sea levels continue to inexorably rise from then onwards, everything will go downhill rapidly. We will face more and more difficulties as we lose much larger areas to the sea. Over the longer term, we have to assume that sea levels may rise as much as 60m (200 feet) before the end of this century. We therefore face the prospect of a massive relocation of everything below 60m, 200 feet; or we must reform the sea margins to raise them by 60m, 200 feet.

What industries will be most affected?

Certainly here in Hampshire where I live, the most vulnerable are going to be the deep sea ports of Southampton and Portsmouth with the marine terminals for the Fawley oil refinery coming a close second. These facilities may rapidly become unusable; in turn causing complete disruption to all sea transportation links with the rest of the planet. And remember, every sea port installation world wide will be similarly affected.

We may rapidly lose access to ship supplied crude oil for refining fuel for road vehicles, home heating, chemical industry supplies, as well as oil for electricity production; particularly as many of the electricity generating stations will also be vulnerable to a sudden sea level rise from being located at sea level for cooling purposes. Again, some of our inland generating facilities are using imported Coal; these imports may be impeded. In which case, one of the implications will be the need to resume Coal mining within the nation to replace external supplies. Maintaining our energy supplies must be a paramount aiming point.

One way around the difficulties caused by our port facilities being inundated will be to create floating port facilities not unlike that created for the D-Day landings in 1945. But instead of for a very short term use, designed for the long term until we reach new sea level stability.

The above makes no mention of all the other related industrial facilities that will also have to be re-located to high ground. Perhaps we can contemplate the creation of floating industrial islands within the confines of such a large sheltered estuary as Southampton Water, the same for other major river estuaries such as the Thames and the Clyde? I do not believe we can contemplate adequate sea defences to existing coastlines.

We should also consider physically moving existing buildings to higher ground, or to floating platforms; rather than impose the additional cost of complete demolition and re-building. We are going to lose a large area of farm land; wherever possible we must do everything we can to protect such in any way possible.

Where do we relocate the displaced populations and associated industries?

We need to set into motion a wide discussion about where to relocate, what such relocation will need as far as resources are concerned and the timescale to produce a result. Our primary responsibility will be to ensure we keep all the available agricultural land used for food production untouched and not permit any disruption to that industry. In addition, as we face a potential complete loss of imported food; we have to also set into motion the creation of new improved methods of food production such as vertical farms.

All non farm land must now be considered for use for relocation purposes, as an example, here in Hampshire, we might now make use of the old cattle droves that are presently only used for farm transport links. In the case of the cattle droves; there are large stretches that can be used to temporally locate displaced populations. It will make sense to install a water supply pipe along their lengths before we need such. We must also make plans for the storage of emergency food, materials and equipment supplies to tide us over until we reach stability. Particularly hand tools of every sort manufactured by our own industry.

What plans are in place to control the displacement?

It is immediately clear that the potential for a very sudden rise in sea levels, while profoundly disturbing; also presents all of us with an immense challenge. Everyone, on every continent, will be affected and as such, this is a challenge for the entire planet to face. However, it is easy to see that we have to face this challenge as an independent nation; using every resource at our disposal. Everyone can play their part to see us through to a new era. It is thus important that once the immediate shock is behind us, that we settle down to create a workable long term plan of action that involves everyone at every level of the nation. **No one should be disadvantaged in any way simply because of their present location;** to do otherwise will lead to needless and unproductive local conflict. Those that have to be moved must be fully supported by the rest of the nation; in every way to maintain a civilised nation.

What do we need to do to cover the short term needs of the displaced populations?

In a very real sense, this is a challenge to the wider nation; to those already acquainted with the knowledge of how to supply such needs. There are some aspects that I want to highlight; particularly education, libraries, military, investment and financial markets.

Education

Like it or not, we may well be forced to return to the classic, self sufficient agrarian economy in place when I was born, mid 1940's where everything we needed as a nation was produced here. We grew our own food, we produced everything we needed. Agriculture may have to return to the use of the heavy horse and as such there will be a need to rediscover the education of the use of the horse by a much wider group in the nation than at present. We also need to ensure our equine population is sufficient for our future needs; now, not later....

By the same token, as we will thus have to return to local production of everything we need to function as a nation; every form of food, and manufactured products of every description will in turn require that much more emphasis will have to be placed upon the need to educate for manual skills. In the past, every local community had all the facilities to ensure such production; from skills in food production, cabinet making, iron and steel manufacture and fabrication immediately spring to mind; Clothing manufacture, and repair being another.

Libraries.

The retention of knowledge is by far one of the most important aspects that will ensure the survival of the nation. Thus any necessary relocation of our libraries will have to be made an absolute priority. Education and knowledge will underpin every aspect of the need to maintain the British nation as a beacon to the rest of the planet. We can provide leadership and guidance based upon our sound reputation for honesty and fair dealings underpinned by a legal system that must also bear the strain of such events without loss of reputation.

Military.

We are blessed with a military that is respected throughout the world and as such we have taken many responsibilities in other nations. Now, we may have to accept that our troops must remain available to defend the nation. We may have to accept that we will need to withdraw them from outlying duties. In turn, they will need to open an internal discussion as to how they will adapt to the new challenges. What new equipment needs they will have; where their bases might need to be relocated; their future manpower needs.

Investment.

As many will already be aware, I refuse to accept the concept of a feudal system that imposes a feudal mercantile economy; instead, for some years now I have been arguing that we need to look at the [free enterprise investment needs](#) of the local communities. These events in prospect will drive those needs to a much higher level. If we are to include the general population in a well organised relocation, then we have to ensure that there are sufficient funds available to allow anyone with get up and go to create employment for the displaced.

That a free enterprise economy; must be the primary aiming point of the overall exercise. That does not require anything other than a desire to implement new thinking that has already been freely and widely debated. We must look to ourselves, and the people surrounding us in our local communities; for our own survival as a nation under free enterprise. The ongoing freedom of the people to prosper for themselves within their local communities is paramount.

Everyone must be fully involved in the transition; if the nation is to succeed.

One last but crucial point

World financial markets may well become deeply unstable. The global economy will almost certainly collapse under the strain of international trade disruptions caused by lack of sea port facilities and associated fuel disruptions will introduce wide uncertainty of supply; leaving every nation turning inwards to first and foremost; support their own populations.

Perhaps for at least the next century; we may have to entirely rely upon our own savings and capital to ensure the necessary funding for the relocation. As a nation, in such circumstances; we need to ensure that all savings originally emanating from this nation are retained for use by this nation and not dispersed into other territories. It will be of utmost importance that we retain our ability to invest in our own people; so that they in turn again are able to create their own prosperity to underpin social cohesion and stability. “Britons never will be slaves”

Conclusion.

If we face the future needs of the nation now, we stand a good chance that we can overcome all possible disruptions that will try and dislocate the economy. In the longer term, we should be able to create a new form of economy loosely based upon the high technology we already enjoy that will remain, but based upon a much more self sufficient population.

Remember, every new age, for that is what we now face, holds the knowledge of the past. We will not lose that knowledge, but instead, as always before, we can and will build upon it. We still know how to knap a Flint tool, as also how to produce Bronze or Steel. We will retain every other part of all such knowledge that we take for granted today; but the retention of which will be paramount to our long term survival as a nation in the future.

We now face a new challenge that will, in turn, allow us to clear away many of the distractions of the modern age, while returning us to a self sufficiency that our grand parents knew very well. The young may have to face the loss of their much prized electronics; yet will also face the challenge of how to retain them; that prospect alone will drive the creation of complete new industries. I am confident they will rise to that challenge.

If we face this coming crisis full on without flinching; we can combine all the skills of the nation to not just overcome our problems; but to also create a vibrant and successful new age; combining all the old knowledge and skills that made us self sufficient in the past with all the new technologies for the future development of new industries.

Yes, we face an immense challenge with the reduction in land area. Yes, there will be massive disruption to the general populations of our sea margin cities and towns. What we need to do is direct our energies towards solutions that will, in turn, drive a new age of both personal and national creativity and associated industry.

By putting our plans in place today; I am sure we will succeed.

By taking the lead into this new age, we will help every other nation to also succeed.

September 27, 2012.

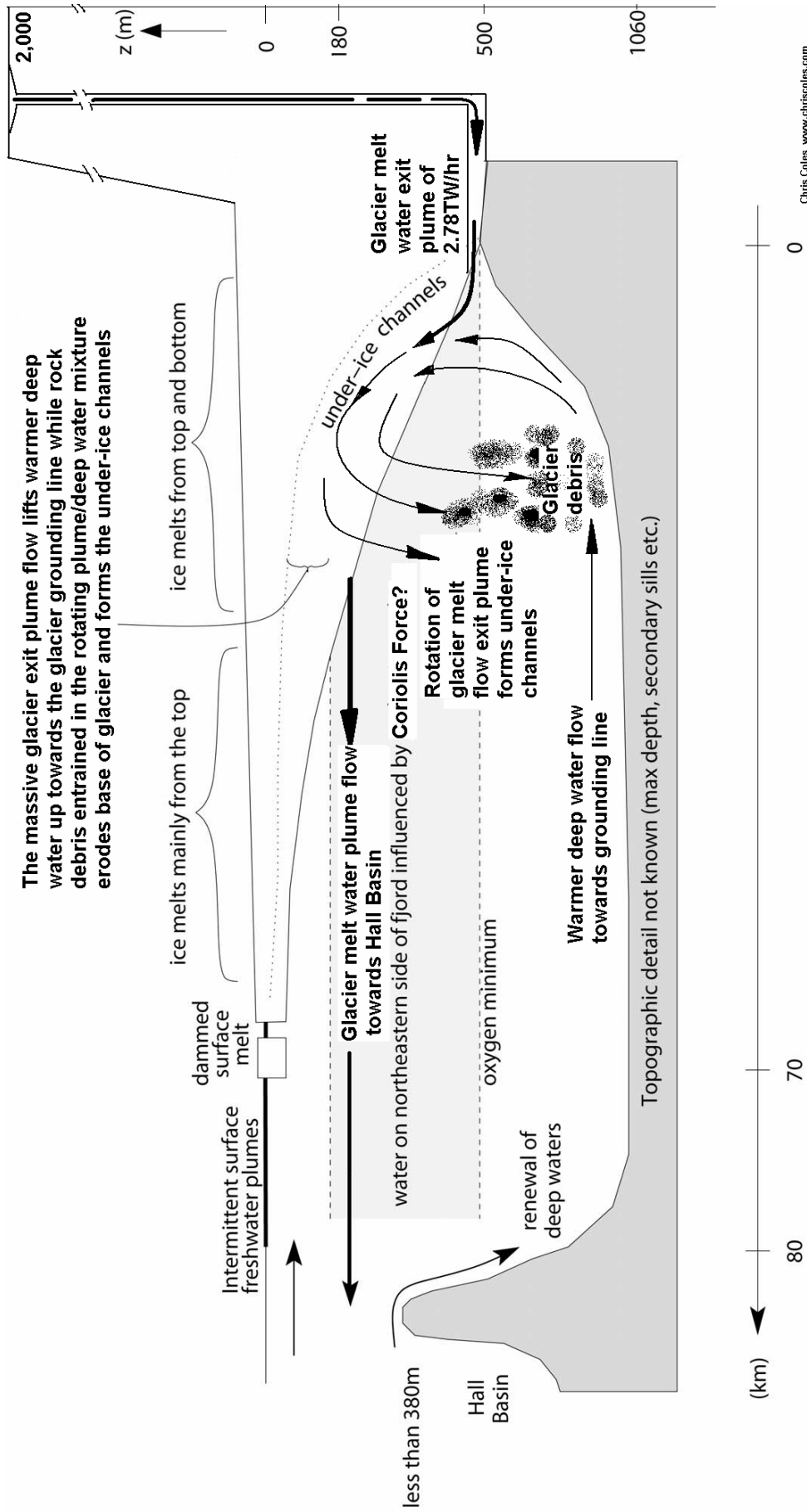
A short note to add some new thinking to the energy inputs influencing the formation of the Peterman Glacier Ice Tongue

During the Greenland Ice Sheet melting season of roughly 30 days a very large proportion of the 1.7KM³ of upper surface melt water flows down from the surface to the glacier base via Moulins. The Peterman Glacier drains 6% of the total ice sheet. The ice sheet is up to 3,000m thick but for this debate I am assuming the maximum height of the Moulins is 2,000m AMSL

During the melt season, there will be a flow of melt water, from Moulins into the Peterman Glacier of 39,352 Litres per second from a hydraulic head of 2,000m which gives an energy input of 770MW/s or 2.78TW/hr.

An ice melt flow of this magnitude will create a massive exit plume under the glacier at the grounding line and will add to the energy input eroding the glacier. I present an illustrated description of the likely result and discuss some of the further implications.





Revised illustration of the Peterman Glacier Ice Tongue

Discussion.

What struck me was that it seems everyone is thinking drain pipes, rather than a fully enclosed hydraulic system; when they stand beside a Moulin at the upper surface of the Greenland Ice Sheet. Whereas they should recognise that they are standing upon perhaps the largest, most powerful hydraulic system, in the Northern hemisphere.

That flow of liquid water immediately carries kinetic energy from the moment it starts its downward journey and it cannot lose it until it ceases motion; while imparting that energy to the surrounding mass of the ice sheet.

Another aspect is that water under pressure carries heat much more efficiently than water at ambient pressure; a point long exploited by industrial heating systems based upon high temperature water as the heat exchange medium.

So the energy input from the water column, both as a pressurised hydraulic medium and as a kinetic energy flow may be very substantial indeed.

Then add another energy input. All atmospheric columns, such as a 3,000m high Moulin tube, have to obey adiabatic lapse rate rules. The Adiabatic Lapse Rate is 2.7 degrees C per 300m. Now, normally, this is associated with the temperature DECREASING as you climb up through the atmosphere from the surface. But again, it seems everyone has missed the simple fact that, if the temperature of the atmosphere at the upper surface of the Greenland Ice Sheet, at say, 3,000m AMSL, is above freezing, say + 3 degrees C, then the same rules apply in reverse. That seemingly empty Moulin is delivering energy at its base relative to the lapse rate in reverse; from top to bottom of the ice sheet; right through the entire column of the ice sheet within every Moulin.

Taking all these additional suggestions together, it seems to me that a careful revision of the underlying thinking contained in the paper titled: Surface Melt-Induced Acceleration of Greenland Ice-Sheet Flow, H.Jay Zwally, et al. will reach a conclusion that they were right to ask their questions and indeed; that they have substantially underestimated their conclusions.

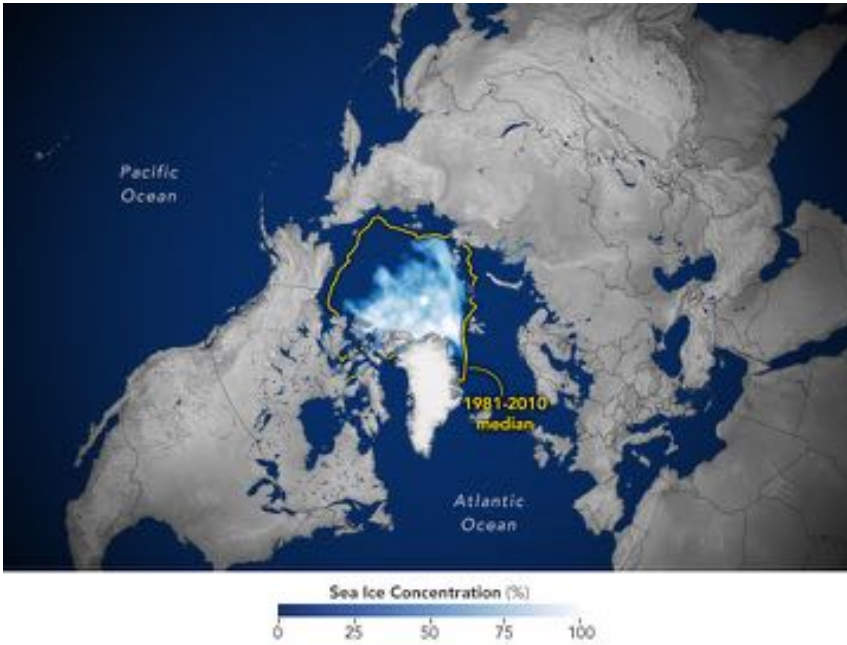
This is inevitably a very brief note to illustrate my thinking. I also have some ideas of how to design and construct a submersible vehicle that might make it possible to view the complete length of the underside of the Peterman Glacier Tongue to confirm the mechanisms involved. But that would require funding.

As a first thought, I suggest that you place a seismometer above the Peterman Glacier grounding line just before the next melt season. Indeed an boxed array of several would be better, as well as a very accurate GPS which should show that the glacier will lift slightly as the melt water flow commences.


September 23, 2012



Arctic Sea Ice 6th Lowest on Record



September 19, 2023

JPEG

Satellite data shows that Arctic sea ice likely reached its annual minimum extent on **September 19, 2023**.

Image of the Day for September 29, 2023

Instruments:

- DMSP — SSM/I
- DMSP — SSMIS
- Nimbus 7 — SMMR

Image of the Day

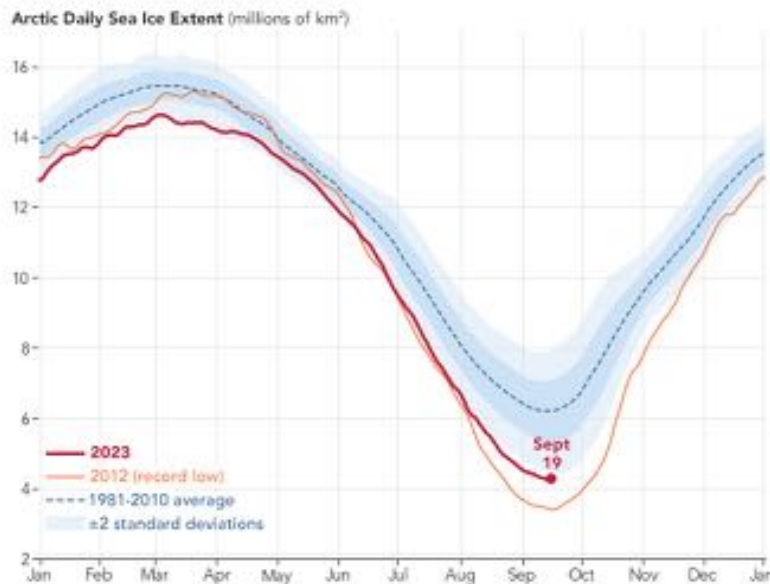
Unique Imagery

Snow and Ice

View more Images of the Day:



Sep 28, 2023



September 19, 2023

Arctic sea ice likely reached its annual minimum extent on Sept. 19, 2023, making it the sixth-lowest year in the satellite record, according to researchers at NASA and the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC).

Annual Sea Ice Extremes 2023

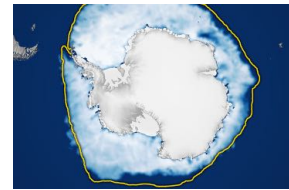
Every year, the frozen seawater in the Arctic Ocean and around Antarctica reaches a maximum and minimum extent.

Did you find what you were looking for?

Scientists track the seasonal and annual fluctuations because sea ice shapes Earth's polar ecosystems and plays a significant role in global climate. Researchers at NSIDC and NASA use satellites to measure sea ice as it melts and refreezes. They track sea ice extent, which is defined as the total area of the ocean in which the ice cover fraction is at least 15%. The map at the top of this page shows the sea ice extent on September 19, 2023.



Between March and September 2023, the ice cover in the Arctic shrank from a peak area of 5.64 million square miles (14.62 million square kilometers) to 1.63 million square miles (4.23 million square kilometers). That's roughly 770,000 square miles (1.99 million square kilometers) below the 1981–2010 average minimum of 2.4 million square miles (6.22 million square kilometers). The amount of sea ice lost was enough to cover the entire continental United States.



This year in the Arctic, scientists saw notably low levels of ice in the Northwest Passage. "It is more open there than it used to be," said Walt Meier, a sea ice scientist at NSIDC. "There also seems to be a lot more loose, lower concentration ice—even toward the North Pole—and areas that used to be pretty compact, solid sheets of ice through the summer. That's been happening more frequently in recent years."

Meier said the changes are a fundamental, decades-long response to warming temperatures. Since the start of the satellite record for ice in 1979, sea ice has not only been declining in the Arctic, but also getting younger. Earlier starts to spring melting and ever-later starts to autumn freeze-up are leading to longer melting seasons. Research has shown that, averaged across the entire Arctic Ocean, freeze-up is happening about a week later per decade, or one month later than in 1979.

Nathan Kurtz, lab chief of NASA's Cryospheric Sciences Laboratory at the agency's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, said that as the Arctic warms about four times faster than the rest of the planet, the ice is also growing thinner. "Thickness at the end of the growth season largely

Did you find what you were looking for?

determines the survivability of sea ice. New research is using satellites like NASA's ICESat-2 (Ice, Cloud and land Elevation Satellite-2) to monitor how thick the ice is year-round."

Kurtz said that long-term measurements of sea ice are critical to studying what's happening in real time at the poles. "At NASA we're interested in taking cutting-edge measurements, but we're also trying to connect them to the historical record to better understand what's driving some of these changes that we're seeing."

Editor's note: An update on Antarctic sea ice is here.

NASA Earth Observatory images by Lauren Dauphin, using data from the National Snow and Ice Data Center. Story by Sally Younger (NASA's Earth Science News Team).

References & Resources

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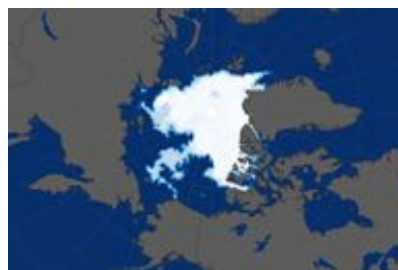
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NSIDC (2023, September 25) Arctic sea ice has reached minimum extent for 2023. Accessed September 26, 2023.

NSIDC (2023, September 25) Arctic sea ice minimum at sixth lowest extent on record. Accessed September 26, 2023.



Image

**Arctic Sea Ice
Minimum Ties
Second Lowest on
Record**



Image

**Leisurely January
Growth for Arctic
Sea Ice**
Did you find what you were looking for?

Since satellites began monitoring sea ice in 1979, researchers have observed a decline in the average extent of Arctic sea ice in every month of the year.

Sea ice extent for January 2016 was one of the lowest on record since space-based observations began in 1978.

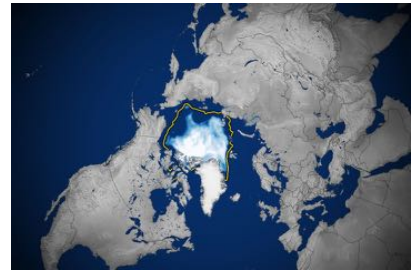


Image of the Day

Snow and Ice

Remote Sensing

Image of the Day

Snow and Ice

Image

Arctic Sea Ice Tied for 10th-Lowest on Record

The summer 2022 extent of Arctic sea ice continued the downward trend under way since the 1980s.

Image of the Day

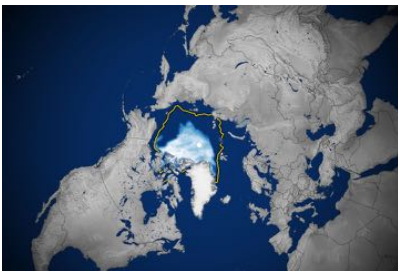
Heat

Water

Snow and Ice

Remote Sensing

Sea and Lake Ice



Image

Arctic Sea Ice Reaches Second-Lowest Extent

The Arctic sea ice extent continues its long-term downward trend.

Image of the Day

Heat

Land

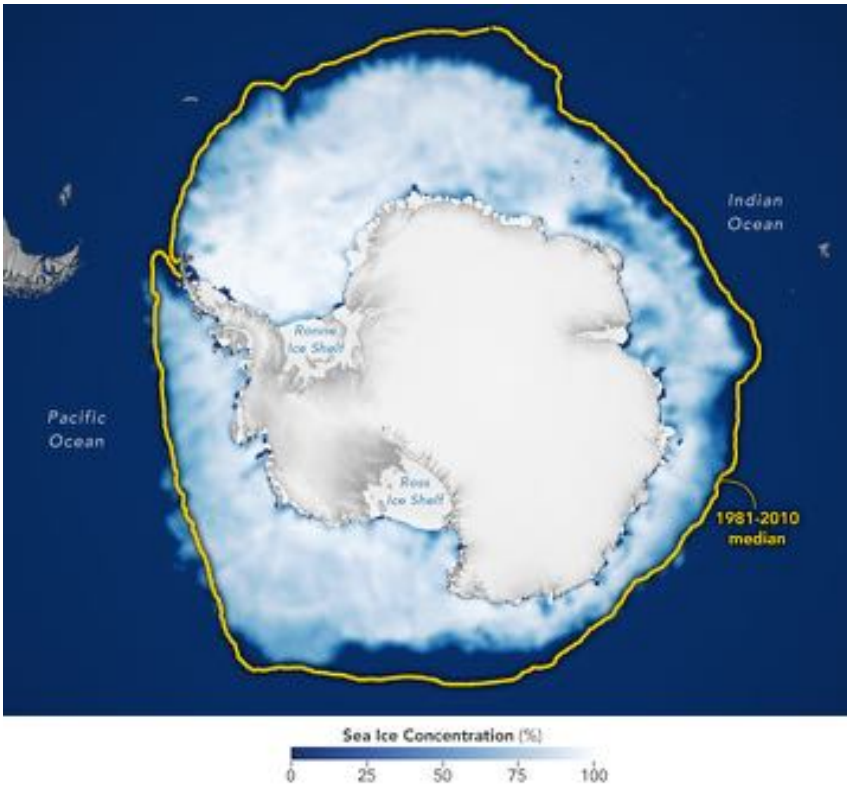
Water

Snow and Ice

Did you find what you were looking for?



Antarctic Sea Ice Sees Record Low Growth



September 10, 2023

JPEG

Satellite data shows that Antarctic sea ice reached its lowest maximum extent on record on September 10, 2023.

Image of the Day for September 27, 2023

Instruments:

DMSP — SSM/I

DMSP — SSMIS

Nimbus 7 — SMMR

Image of the Day

Unique Imagery

Snow and Ice

Sea and Lake Ice

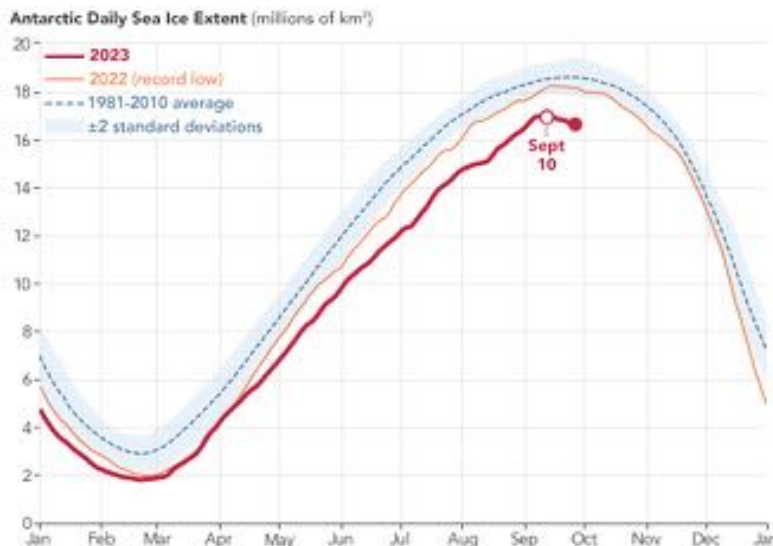
View more Images of the Day:



Sep 26, 2023



Sep 28, 2023



Annual Sea Ice Extremes 2023

Did you find what you were looking for?

September 10, 2023

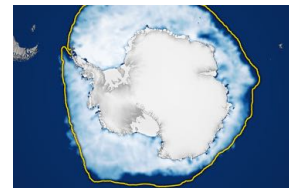
Antarctic sea ice reached its lowest maximum extent on record on Sept. 10 at a time when the ice cover should have been growing at a much faster pace during the darkest and coldest months.

Sea ice around Antarctica reached its lowest winter maximum extent on Sept. 10, 2023, at 6.5 million square miles (16.96 million square kilometers), according to researchers at NASA and the National Snow and Ice Data Center (NSIDC). That's 398,000 square miles (1.03 million square kilometers) below the previous record-low reached in 1986—a difference that equates to roughly the size of Texas and California combined. The average maximum extent between 1981 and 2010 was 7.22 million square miles (18.71 million square kilometers).

The map at the top of this page shows the sea ice extent on September 10, 2023. "It's a record-smashing sea ice low in the Antarctic," said Walt Meier, a sea ice scientist at NSIDC. "Sea ice growth appears low around nearly the whole continent as opposed to any one region."

Scientists are working to understand the cause of the meager growth of the Antarctic sea ice, which could include a combination of factors such as El Niño, wind patterns, and warming ocean temperatures. New research has shown that ocean heat is likely playing an important role in slowing cold season ice growth and enhancing warm season melting.

Every year, the frozen seawater in the Arctic Ocean and around Antarctica reaches a maximum and minimum extent.



This record-low extent so far in 2023 is a continuation of a downward trend in Antarctic sea ice that started after a record high in 2014. Prior to 2014, ice surrounding the continent was increasing slightly by about 1% per decade.

Sea ice melting at both poles reinforces warming because of a cycle called "ice-albedo feedback." While bright sea ice reflects most of the Sun's energy back to space, open ocean water

Did you find what you were looking for?

absorbs 90% of it. With greater areas of the ocean exposed to solar energy, more heat can be absorbed, which warms the ocean waters and further delays sea ice growth.

Editor's note: An update on Arctic sea ice is here.

NASA Earth Observatory images by Lauren Dauphin, using data from the National Snow and Ice Data Center. Story by Sally Younger (NASA's Earth Science News Team).

References & Resources

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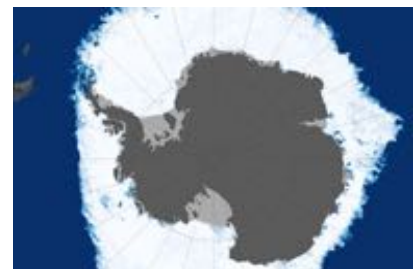
NSIDC (2023, September 25) Antarctic sets a record low maximum by wide margin. Accessed September 26, 2023.



Image

2015 Antarctic Sea Ice Extent

In 2015, the annual maximum extent of Antarctic sea ice dropped below previous consecutive years of record highs.



Image

Antarctic Sea Ice Reaches New Maximum Extent

This map shows sea ice extent around Antarctica on September 22, 2013, when ice covered more of the Southern Ocean than at any other time in the satellite record.

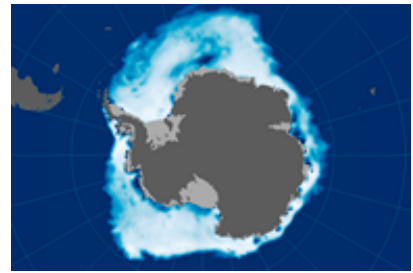
Did you find what you were looking for?

Image of the Day

Snow and Ice

Image of the Day

Snow and Ice



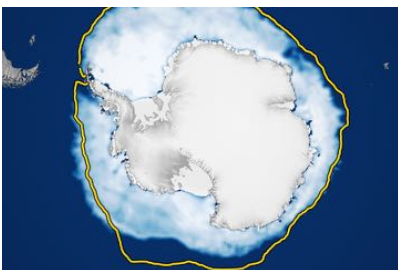
Image

Melting Woes: Antarctic Sea Ice at Record Lows

Shifting winds and warm air temperatures contributed to the record-low extent of sea ice around Antarctica in November.

Image of the Day

Snow and Ice



Image

Exceptionally Low Antarctic Sea Ice

The extent of winter sea ice surrounding Antarctica is in uncharted territory in the satellite record.

Image of the Day

Snow and Ice

Did you find what you were looking for?

Further information submitted – available on request.

Proposed Holt Pound development

[REDACTED]

Mon 04/03/2024 06:27

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I am writing to protest in the strongest terms against this development for the following reasons:
Local overdevelopment - once again we are faced with a proposed project which will overwhelm a locality, changing its nature and appearance for ever.

Infrastructure - has any consideration at all been given to the effects of such a dramatic increase in population to local roads, schools, GP services, water supply, etc. which are already stretched by the development that has recently been permitted in the area?

Farnham area overdevelopment - also once again we are faced with yet another large scale development on the outskirts of Farnham and yet again it is a development that does not provide the type of genuinely affordable housing that is actually needed.

Road safety - the junction of the very busy A325 with Fullers Road is already known to be a dangerous one with ever-increasing numbers of vehicles attempting to leave or enter Rowledge, particularly so with regards to vehicles turning right from Fullers Road towards Farnham. Many local residents have witnessed "near misses" as vehicles leaving Fullers Road confront a fast-moving traffic stream coming down the hill from Wrecclesham. The situation is shortly to become even worse when the houses currently being built right next to this junction are occupied.

Yours etc.,

[REDACTED]

East Hampshire District Local Plan (Reg 18 Draft) - Site allocation RLC1 Deerleap (North) Rowlands Castle

Mon 26/02/2024 10:20

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Following a failed attempt to make an online submission (Commonplace website crashed) I submit the following objection.

Housing allocation at RLC1 Deerleap (North), Rowlands Castle

I object to the inclusion of the above site within Rowlands Castle village for the following reasons.

1) Conservation

Two Government Inspectors have previously turned down the prospect of development at Deerleap (in 2006 and in 2016) because of the importance of the flint wall and the trees and habitat behind as being a key component of the character of the village itself and the important Conservation Area. This undeveloped area forms a rural edge to the village green on the south side and a rural scene for the many residents in the centre of the village and also for those who visit the village just because it is on the edge of considerable countryside. The Inspector in consideration of the last Local Plan, when housing was last proposed here, said "that this would fly in the face of the relevant [Conservation] legislation designed to protect these Areas. It should not be countenanced."

Nothing has changed since that time, with new housing being built out of sight of the Conservation Area; indeed the new Neighbourhood Plan, drawn up by the Parish Council and approved by the District Council, reiterated the critical importance of this view within the village centre. Furthermore, it should be added that the Inspectors ruled out the possibility of effective screening being able to mitigate the visual impact of development on these two sites.

2) Wildlife and Biodiversity

The area known as Deerleap provides important habitat for flora and fauna including protected species like great crested newts, dormice, various snakes, birds and bats with both the woodland and grasslands here providing priority habitats. The loss of such an important habitat given that other areas on and adjacent to Deerleap Lane have already been lost to housing is of great concern. Our wildlife has a right to suitable habitat as part of sustaining a beneficial environment for all of us.

3) Flooding

The sites are within an area known to suffer from regular flooding (located in Flood Zone 2) and the inclusion of more hard surfacing will clearly increase "run-off" and exacerbate this problem, particularly within the lower village central area, which already experience extensive road flooding in times of heavy persistent rain.

4) Drinking water quality

The sites are within an area which requires protection and safeguarding given the aquifers which are known to exist here.

5) Access

This could be achieved via Deerleap Lane, which is already an overly utilised road (leading to nearly 80 properties) given its restricted width and alignment. The entrance/exit point onto Deerleap Lane will have limited visibility issues and the restricted width will make turning in and out awkward for large vehicles. There has already been a fatality by the junction with Redhill Road as well as a number of other reported accidents.

6) Scheduled Ancient Monument

The sites are also close to the ancient castle site itself (a scheduled ancient monument) and any development will detrimentally affect the setting of this protected heritage asset.

7) General comments

Given that EHDC Council are proposing only 13 dwellings on the 2 Deerleap sites in total and the substance of the constraints mentioned above, the allocation in the Local Plan will not have a material effect on the need for housing. It's also important to note that this would inevitably end up as a much larger development (as demonstrated elsewhere in the village) as developers tried to cram more dwellings on the site. This would mean that the environmental and conservation constraints would be far more severe than the Councils anticipates.

With the Land North of Bartons Road planning application for 61 properties still to be approved (and not included in the Local Plan even though the Plan runs from 2021-2040), plus acceptable fairly large developments at RLC3 off Whichers Gate Road and RLC4 at Little Leigh Farm there is already a good number of properties to be built within the Parish plus some 200 properties in the North of the Parish within the Land East of Horndean development.

Finally, I suspect that the Council has brought forward this site because of its proximity to local services in the village including the railway station. However, because the flint wall, that runs along the north of the site, cannot (for conservation reasons) be breached, residents will have to actually walk an additional 400m from the nearest possible access point in Deerleap Lane.

8) Summary

In summary the development of RLC1 Deerleap (North) will have a very negative effect on the Conservation Area of Rowlands Castle village, which has twice been the reason that Inspectors have directed that the areas be removed from a list of suitable sites. In addition, the negative effect on wildlife of all types with the loss of yet more good habitat is also of great concern. These are the key reasons (but with others given above) why I strongly object to this site being included in the Local Plan.

Yours

██████████

Resident of Rowlands Castle

East Hampshire District Local Plan (Reg 18 Draft) - Site allocation RLC2 Deerleap (South) Rowlands Castle

Mon 26/02/2024 10:26

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Following a failed attempt to make an online submission (Commonplace website crashed) I submit the following objection.

Housing allocation at RLC2 Deerleap (South), Rowlands Castle

I object to the inclusion of the above site within Rowlands Castle village for the following reasons.

1) Conservation

Two Government Inspectors have previously turned down the prospect of development at Deerleap (in 2006 and in 2016) because of the importance of the flint wall and the trees and habitat behind as being a key component of the character of the village itself and the important Conservation Area. This undeveloped area forms a rural edge to the village green on the south side and a rural scene for the many residents in the centre of the village and also for those who visit the village just because it is on the edge of considerable countryside. The Inspector in consideration of the last Local Plan, when housing was last proposed here, said "that this would fly in the face of the relevant [Conservation] legislation designed to protect these Areas. It should not be countenanced."

Nothing has changed since that time, with new housing being built out of sight of the Conservation Area; indeed the new Neighbourhood Plan, drawn up by the Parish Council and approved by the District Council, reiterated the critical importance of this view within the village centre. Furthermore, it should be added that the Inspectors ruled out the possibility of effective screening being able to mitigate the visual impact of development on these two sites.

2) Wildlife and Biodiversity

The area known as Deerleap provides important habitat for flora and fauna including protected species like great crested newts, dormice, various snakes, birds and bats with both the woodland and grasslands here providing priority habitats. The loss of such an important habitat given that other areas on and adjacent to Deerleap Lane have already been lost to housing is of great concern. Our wildlife has a right to suitable habitat as part of sustaining a beneficial environment for all of us.

3) Flooding

The sites are within an area known to suffer from regular flooding (located in Flood Zone 2) and the inclusion of more hard surfacing will clearly increase "run-off" and exacerbate this problem, particularly within the lower village central area, which already experience extensive road flooding in times of heavy persistent rain.

4) Drinking water quality

The sites are within an area which requires protection and safeguarding given the aquifers which are known to exist here.

5) Access

This could be achieved via Deerleap Lane, which is already an overly utilised road (leading to nearly 80 properties) given its restricted width and alignment. The entrance/exit point onto Deerleap Lane will have limited visibility issues and the restricted width will make turning in and out awkward for large vehicles. There has already been a fatality by the junction with Redhill Road as well as a number of other reported accidents.

6) Scheduled Ancient Monument

The sites are also close to the ancient castle site itself (a scheduled ancient monument) and any development will detrimentally affect the setting of this protected heritage asset.

7) General comments

Given that EHDC Council are proposing only 13 dwellings on the 2 Deerleap sites in total and the substance of the constraints mentioned above, the allocation in the Local Plan will not have a material effect on the need for housing. It's also important to note that this would inevitably end up as a much larger development (as demonstrated elsewhere in the village) as developers tried to cram more dwellings on the site. This would mean that the environmental and conservation constraints would be far more severe than the Councils anticipates.

With the Land North of Bartons Road planning application for 61 properties still to be approved (and not included in the Local Plan even though the Plan runs from 2021-2040), plus acceptable fairly large developments at RLC3 off Whichers Gate Road and RLC4 at Little Leigh Farm there are already a good number of properties to be built within the Parish plus some 200 properties in the North of the Parish within the Land East of Horndean development.

Finally, I suspect that the Council has brought forward this site because of its proximity to local services in the village including the railway station. However, because the flint wall, that runs along the north of the adjacent site (Deerleap North), cannot (for conservation reasons) be breached, residents will have to actually walk an additional 400m from the nearest possible access point in Deerleap Lane.

8) Summary

In summary the development of RLC2 Deerleap (South) will have a very negative effect on the Conservation Area of Rowlands Castle village, which has twice been the reason that Inspectors have directed that the areas be removed from a list of suitable sites. In addition, the negative effect on wildlife of all types with the loss of yet more good habitat is also of great concern. These are the key reasons (but with others given above) why I strongly object to this site being included in the Local Plan.

Yours

██████████

Resident of Rowlands Castle

Objection to development of Neatham Down

Fri 01/03/2024 11:45

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

East Hants

Sir/Madam

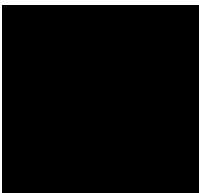
I strongly object to the above development;

- Excessive homes proposed: +22% above EHDC's required 9,082 homes by 2040; (+10% enough).
- 3 large development sites^[1] *in our parish* **would destroy** 111 ha greenfield land (4% of parish).
- Building on productive farmland is against government's 'Brownfield First' policy.
- Proposals would irrevocably change the rural nature of the local area.
- Would have a negative impact on nature & biodiversity, including River Wey & chalk aquifer.
- Further sites yet to be proposed from SDNP Local Plan, but EHDC Plan proposals alone would **MORE THAN DOUBLE** our parish population.
- Puts undue pressure on local infrastructure (roads, water supply, sewage, health care).

Big greenfield developments are NOT what Binsted 'Parish Priorities Statement' said we want

[1] ALT8 Neatham Down, HOP1 Holt Pound and ALT7 Lynch Hill

Sincerely



██████████ Objection to Development on Land at Brick Kiln Lane Alton.**ALT1. Ref AL-005**██
Wed 07/02/2024 20:15

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

📎 4 attachments (12 MB)

SA19 (4).JPG; SA19 (5).JPG; 3_Edge_of_Ackender_Woods_2018.height-800.jpg; SA19 (3).JPG;

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to object to the proposal to build on land at Brick Kiln Lane Alton. (ALT1) Ref AL- 005

I believe that development at Brick Kiln Lane will have adverse landscape and visual impacts. As stated in the council's plan, this area is visible within the landscape from the Basingstoke Road and residential areas to the South East of the town but the Council Plan fails to mention that the area is also highly visible to walkers, along the pathways from Alton to Beech, particularly at the edge of Ackender Wood. It is my recommendation that a site survey be taken from the public footpath at the edge of Ackender Wood, in order that the visual impacts can be fully understood. The pathway is reached via Pertuis Avenue. I have attached some photographs taken from Ackender Wood so you can better appreciate the beauty of this proposed site.

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this email.

Kind regards

██

Comments on Local Plan/ Brick Kiln Lane ALT 1

[REDACTED]

Thu 07/03/2024 13:24

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Additional comments regarding proposal to build at Brick Kiln Lane.

1. River pollution: Development at this site may cause pollution from agricultural run off, into the River Wey and have a detrimental affect on the natural environment.
2. Flooding Risk: Since development started in the fields above the river source, large amounts of silt can be seen in the river, as it flows through the Flood Meadows during heavy rain. As a passenger in the train between Farnham and Alton during heavy rain last week, I noticed similar, large amounts of silt, travelling downstream in the river. Will this silt cause obstruction and flooding?
3. Increase in traffic and air pollution.





Comments Regarding Proposal to build at Whitedown Lane Alton (ALT4)

[REDACTED]
Thu 29/02/2024 10:21

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir/Madam

This is an area of natural beauty, adjacent to ancient woodland and pathways and as such, should be protected from development. Development will have a negative visual impact and will expose the ancient woodland habitat to pollution from building works, cars, noise, light and litter. The plan mentions a risk of flooding in Alton. Can the Council afford to deal with the consequences of flooding?

EHDC Local Plan - response to consultation. Enough is enough of the over development of Alton

Tue 27/02/2024 18:36

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

> Dear Sirs,

>

> I object to your plans for more housing in and around Alton.

>

> Wherever they are located in and around Alton, 1700 new houses will have a hugely negative impact on the town and our quality of life - particularly with regard to health care capacity, education capacity, traffic, impact on the environment.

>

> I challenge the allocation of 1700 new houses. The allocation is unfair, and it is wrong.

>

> The four settlements of Alton, Whitehill/Bordon, Horndean and Liphook have to take the bulk of new housing development in East Hampshire outside the National Park. In earlier proposals as the Local Plan emerged, all four were put in the same 'tier' and the housing allocation would have been spread accordingly. Now, in the current Local Plan, Alton is the only settlement in Tier 1 and the others have all been put in Tier 2. This results in 1,700 houses allocated to Alton compared with 1,098 spread across the other three. There is no justification for this unfair allocation. This is particularly strange when considering Whitehill/Bordon where there has been enormous investment in infrastructure in recent years. It seems to me that the numbers are being distorted to allow EHDC to identify Neatham Down as a strategic development site.

>

> The Neatham Down site will not be a sustainable development. It will be a car-dependent community adding greatly to the existing traffic problems of our town. The increased need for car parking will restrict the amount of brownfield development that can be achieved in the town and the proposal is in conflict with many other environmental and travel policies contained elsewhere in the Local Plan and also required by national planning guidelines.

>

> Alton is only a small town. We have already taken our fair share of new housing. Our small town centre, roads, health services and schools simply cannot take any more - enough is enough. This has to stop.

>

> Regards,

>

> [REDACTED]

>

General comment

Fri 08/03/2024 15:08

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

The local plan document is very large and much of it uses language, and refers to rules and regulations, outside my experience. I am inclined to comment on more specific proposals for my own local area, but there are conflicting views here in Liphook and also elsewhere in East Hants. I've tried to take a more general view of **any development in East Hants**.

As minimum requirements for any new development I would expect:

1. Good access from a main local road.
2. Adequate surface water drainage,
3. Satisfactory sewage arrangements,
4. Links to water at sufficient pressure,
5. Connection to stable electricity supplies,
6. Local gas connection or alternative form of heating.

These should be available without adversely affecting existing provision for neighbouring properties.

These are basic services but the local plan also refers to building homes that are pleasant to live in. That view can also be applied to existing properties: their character and environment should not be adversely affected by a new development.


The amenities enjoyed by existing properties also include the wider infrastructure. Existing schools, shops, surgeries, public transport etc. may not be sufficient as populations increase. While large, strategic developments may include additional amenities, **the increasing accumulation of moderate housing developments also impacts the local community.**

I am not sure how the proposed Local Plan addresses this growing problem. It would seem to need more co-operation between the District Council and Hampshire Council (roads), NHS Trusts (surgeries), Education Authorities (schools), Southern Rail and Bus Services (public transport).

Covid, online shopping and the closure of banks and shops has left **our villages and small towns in need of a renewed sense of purpose**. That is what is missing from the Local Plan.



Virus-free www.avg.com

 - Local Plan Consultation
Tue 05/03/2024 18:29

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sirs,

Please find below my response to your Local Plan Consultation. My comments are all in relation to Liphook.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Existing infrastructure is inadequate for the current population. All proposed housing developments will add to already stretched resources and I have no confidence that any promised upgrades will materialise given previous track records. There are a lack of GPs and school places, terrible traffic congestion, flooding on the Midhurst Road and Haslemere Road, sewage overloads, power cuts, dangerous potholes(Midhurst Road especially) and no buses.

SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK

As has been pointed out repeatedly, the only realistic house building site is in the quarter that is within the SDNP boundary. I cannot understand why EHDC continues to avoid dialogue with SDNP about this. I understand that house building can occur here and there is not a blanket ban on the site just because it lies within the NP.

NDP & OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

I have responded to multiple consultations, all of which seem to be ignored and superseded with yet another consultation on the same matter. What happened to feedback gathered on the NDP?

LIP3 CHILTLEY FARM

This is currently a substantial agricultural business and IS NOT brownfield land in any respect. A single point of vehicle access is proposed through existing residential roads not built for the volumes of traffic that the proposal will generate. The Midhurst Road floods regularly, the road construction is breaking up and the rail bridge is unlikely to withstand any heavier use than now for either vehicles or pedestrians. I understand that Network Rail have objected to this proposed development on flood risk grounds. The thought that the existing foul sewer network (which is already at full capacity) could be put under further strain, is frankly shocking.

Taken together, I object in the strongest terms to this proposal for development.

Yours faithfully


Sent from my iPad

Proposed Development at Neatham Down

Mon 04/03/2024 09:22

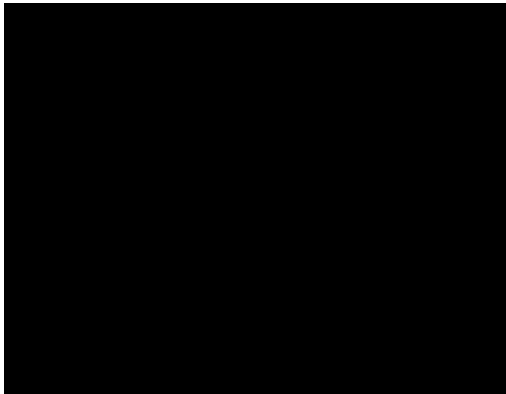
To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Sir(s), Madam,The purpose of this email is to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed development on Neatham Down.

1. The development will replace prime agricultural land and is against the Government's 'Brown field first' Policy.
2. It will spoil a beautiful landscape
3. The proposed development of 1,250 homes is excessive especially since the new community would be cut off from the rest of Alton by the major A31 trunk road, thus requiring residents to have their own transport. Public transport will not be available so any residents living in the 'affordable' homes element will be isolated.
4. Excess additional pressure on local services and infrastructure which are already overstretched, including sewage treatment which already discharges sewage to the river Wey on occasions.

Kind regards





Dear Sir,

20th February 2024

**Proposed Development on Land Adjacent to Woodlands Avenue
LAA Reference – RC-001**

Having seen the proposed plan and the statement attached to it regarding a 'gentle slope' that is fatuous to say the least, the land falls several feet in multi directions. The proposal for developing this land is wrong on so many levels.

1. Access via Woodlands Avenue is totally unacceptable. Since the development of the Montague Green Estate, the traffic flow has increased exponentially. The entrance is too narrow to allow two cars to pass simultaneously and one has to hang back to allow exit or egress. The proposal to have forty ton HGV construction lorries adding to the problem will result in serious safety issues. The road is unadopted due to its width restriction and the fact that it is now a Private Road solely paid for and maintained by the residents, would require any additional traffic, to increase, already growing annually, maintenance charges. Adding additional traffic onto Woodlands Avenue from another development is ludicrous.
2. The entrance is also close to St John's Primary school whereby parents walk with their children to the school, via Woodlands Avenue. The pavement opposite is in need of repair and crossing this road to access the pavement is difficult. Construction vehicles would seriously add to the danger and wellbeing of those children. There is zero parking in Woodlands Avenue for waiting HGV construction lorries waiting to access their site. The only two parking bays are for the residents, their visitors and tradesmen attending the residents properties and are insufficient for their needs. Having lived through the construction of Montague Green from the start, The abuse by construction traffic parking on kerbs, grassland, pavements and in bays illegally, was dangerous. There is nothing to suggest they would not do this again. In addition, Whichers Gate Road, is incapable of providing a holding bay for these lorries. There is also zero provision for the parking of construction workers vehicles.
3. The proposed field for construction floods at the fence level with light rain by the run off ground water. Concreting over this would be a disaster. In addition, Whichers Gate Road floods with heavier rain from the ground water run off from the field. The current flood defence on the Montague Green estate could not cope with additional volumes of flood water. Nor could Whichers Gate Road.
4. There has been several instances of foul and waste water blockages, adding another 51 properties would exacerbate the situation at the expense of the current residents
5. Environmentally, the field is the habitat for deer, foxes, pheasant, rabbits, hares and protected species such a butterflies, voles and bats. The bats habitation, prevented lighting being upgraded or indeed provided on the Montague Green Estate. Lighting another section would be environmentally incompetent at best and illegal at worst.
6. Article 1 of the Human Rights Act protects our rights to quietly enjoy our property. As our property would be directly effected by the use of Woodlands Avenue as access, then we will resist any proposal to do so. Whilst the deeds allows the owners of the proposed field access, it does not allow any further development access without the successful approval of a Planning Application. This proposal breeches the Human Rights Act under Article 1 and

other Articles such prescribed. It would also seriously endanger children and residents impacting their mental wellbeing and safety.

THEREFORE WE STRONGLY OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE LAND
OPPOSITE WOODLANDS AVENUE AND ITS USE FOR ACCESS.

Yours Faithfully

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

East Hampshire Draft Local Plan Consultation 2021-2040

Wed 06/03/2024 09:51

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Good Morning, please see below my response to the proposed plan.

We fully support the allocated housing in the Alton area of 1700 dwellings. The facilities and infrastructure are significantly greater, when compared to Whitehill & Bordon. It is a traditional market town, has a train station, Community Hospital (not proposed to be closed, as with Chase Hospital in Bordon) sixth form college and much larger Leisure Centre. [Alton Household Waste & Recycling Centre is also currently not under consultation for closure/reduction, as Bordon is.]

We recognise the frustrating challenge that East Hampshire District Council in that it cannot include the part of the district that falls within the South Down National Park within its local plan. This includes Petersfield. This leaves Alton and Whitehill & Bordon as the only two 'towns' in the Local Plan.

We recognise that home housing increases create extra economic activity, creating jobs locally and supporting local businesses. Development can generate S106 that can be invested into the local area. We would not want to see the development and regeneration of the new Town Centre area stagnate.

We also recognise that the Planning Inspectorate is unlikely to sign off a plan that would propose housing for the Alton area, Four Marks, Southern Parishes and other villages, without including Whitehill & Bordon.

This plan proposes 667 homes to be delivered by 2040 (noting this in addition to the 2400 homes given planning permission of which about 1900 have yet to be built and any 'windfall site' e.g. a random planning application approved.) In contrast, the Alton area is now proposed to take 1700 extra homes - just over two-and-a-half times as many as Whitehill & Bordon. We feel this is justified, based on their level of facilities and infrastructure.

We also note 1073 proposed to go elsewhere in the district.

Therefore, Whitehill & Bordon is proposed to take 667 out of the 3440 total, which is 19.4%. We feel this is a fair number when looked at in this overall context and support the local plan allocations across the district.

We are concerned that any increase in housing may stretch vital facilities and infrastructure must match growth. We support the 'requirements' outlined, but express concern that the Health Hub proposed for Whitehill and Bordon is not yet 100% confirmed and thus need to ensure there is adequate medical provision if the Health Hub does not get built [e.g. from Chase Hospital] with the Local Plan acknowledging this. We would like to see a requirement supporting public transport e.g. via S106, as this is crucial for our community, especially where we have no train station.

We understand that the new Whitehill and Bordon Town Centre development is happening in its current location because that is where the MOD land became available. However, having a shopping area in the original Town Centre area of Bordon is extremely important in serving residents in this part of town. We also support regenerating the Forest Centre offering and ensuring shops remain open in that part of Bordon. We are also concerned with the amount of

information that residents are expected to read to format a meaningful response to the local plan consultation.

Yours faithfully

██████████

My comments for DLP 2024

The Draft Local Plan is a very impressive, especially with all its supporting documents. I am pleased to see the effort being made in respect of climate change & the environment. However, from my conversation at the Local Plan consultation meeting In Four Marks; I am aware the focus of the plan is long term, hence there are gaps in addressing various issues in the short / medium term.

A31 Corridor

The effect on the A31 is a major weakness in the plan. One councillor of 10TH Jan said, it's the Elephant in the room.

The plan focusses on the long-term reduction in car use, but this is not going to be achieved in the short/medium term. Hence the **cumulative impact** of an extra 2/3 cars per household has not been fully considered.

Your background paper on transport, with stats on traffic studies in the area are not reflective of what it is like to live in the village.

The junctions in Four Marks & South Medstead on to the A31 are pinch points & already at 85% capacity. Further development in Four Marks & South Medstead with extra vehicles trying to get on to the A31 would severely compound the issue. Hence, there needs to be highway improvement schemes to these junctions.

In addition to this, It needs to be considered that of all the towns & villages on the A31 in EHDC, Four Marks is the only residential location to have the A31 running through the centre of the village!

Guildford – bypass

Farnham – bypass

Bentley – bypass

Alton – bypass

FM/SM – no bypass, **A31 runs through the centre of FOUR MARKS!**

Ropley – no bypass, but centre is away from the A31.

Alresford – bypass

I understand from my conversation at the local meeting that a bypass for Four Marks is not being considered as your long-term aim of the plan is a reduction in car use, but this is simply not going to be the case for several / many years to come! **Hence a solution to the impact of the extra traffic in the short term needs to be addressed!**

Four Marks & South Medstead has recently been heavily impacted by various road closures. As most people in the village must travel by car to work, to large supermarkets, to schools etc, it was chaos during the recent road closures for the fibre installation - the A31 & many of the surrounding roads were all affected, resulting in journey's taking up to 4 times as long.

We have also seen a significant increase in regular through traffic - this because of the A32 road closure several months ago. This closure, forcing extra traffic down the A31, caused chaos at the junctions / along Telegraph Lane & Lymington bottom, especially at peak travel times. With traffic on some occasions backing up halfway down Telegraph Lane to the A31. People now choose to drive through our village rather than use the A32, as they use the shops in Four Marks like a service station!

A knock on of this, is that it is difficult for residents to park by the shops, as being a linear village, many residents live more than a 10-minute walk away, hence need to drive.

PLUS

Lorry's stop on the A31 by the kerb, making it very difficult for people to see when pulling out from the parking by Tesco & from Oakgreen Parade. Only last week, I witnessed a near miss car crash due to a lorry blocking the vision.

So, the **lack of parking spaces by the shops also needs to be addressed!**

Tier structure Four Marks / South Medstead tier 3?

I question why Four Marks / South Medstead are in Tier 3 & have sites, where there are other villages with a similar point score who are either in tier 4 and/or have no development sites.

There are various things that stand out in the plan & supporting paperwork.

So, I ask you to re-consider with the view of moving Four Marks to tier 4.

- FM/SM have the pretty much the same score as Ropley, although have higher population, we have the same infrastructure.
- FM/SM is a Linear village rather than around hub, which makes it more dependent on car use.
- FM/SM has a lower score than Bentley who have a main line station & bypass. So why does Bentley have no sites?

Scores : Four Marks & South Medstead 13.92 / Ropley 13.87 / Bentley 16.71

Environment

Any development within a rural setting which is primarily used for agriculture will have a massive negative impact and damage the valuable ecosystem.

This area and the surrounding roads have matured trees and hedgerows which provide a natural habitat for many wildlife species.

Further development in this area will result in the loss of this ecological asset and disrupt the balance of the local ecosystem.

I personally have slow worms, bats, newts, other wildlife and many bird species in my garden, hence would hate to see these impacted.

We are also a Dark Skies village & it should remain as such.

Surely development in such an area, contradicts elements of your plan.

Infrastructure

Four Marks and South Medstead have had disproportionate amount of housing development over the past 6 years for which there have been no improvements in infrastructure.

The village has inadequate utilities infrastructure requiring the reinforcement of water, gas, electricity, drainage, and telecoms. Many existing houses are on septic tanks, with overhead electric cables. Hence, there needs to be significant improvement in infrastructure to meet the needs of the already increased population!

I note that when Holland Drive was built off Boyneswood road, there was to be improvements to the junction on to the A31 - this has yet to be done!!!!

Social infrastructure has not been fully considered. For example: no extra retail or employment.

I am aware that **foul water drainage** will be a major issue for any development in FM/SM, as this needs to be taken back to Alton. Additionally, with the clay / chalk surface layers, **surface water drainage** is already an issue in the village, this will be compounded by the changing climate, having warmer & wetter winters. The geography of FM being the highest inhabited point in Hampshire, does not lend itself to well to resolving this issue. Hence more consideration needs to be given to the impact of the plan on this village!

Boundaries Surgery

I am a patient of Boundaries surgery & welcome the extension to the practice (which is already struggling with capacity from recent development in the village). However, parking is already a challenge at the practice & there does not seem to be additional parking in the plan?

Surly extra parking needs to be addressed & resolved to allow capacity for extra patients!

Housing supply & affordability

There is already over development in the village and although there is a national need for affordable homes; perhaps EHDC need to consider that over the past three years, there has been a 65% increase in vacant office space. Hence, given the extent of the housing crisis, surely converting office space into residential homes would be the answer. Providing redevelopment met the requirements, it would be acceptable in planning terms. These types of homes would be more affordable, be able to use existing infrastructure and meet the needs of the 5-year land housing supply.

Settlement Boundary / Greenfield & agricultural land

Alternative undeveloped brownfield sites are available with all the required infrastructure. Hence there is no need for construction / development on new greenfield sites.

The environmental factors need to be addressed, as development of greenfield / rural sites will have a huge impact on the environment & wildlife.

Sites outside the settlement boundary, where planning applications have been rejected in the past, was because of sustainability and the impact that backland / infill development would have on the area. I believe there would be restrictive issues with development in these areas, as it means that any developers would have to overcome quite some considerable objections before development would be feasible & deliverable. Development outside the SPB would harm the character of the countryside and therefore conflict with the policies in the plan.

Summary

Four Marks and South Medstead are already over our previously targeted development. Any further development would be disproportionate to other areas within East Hampshire.

There are other locations where development is deliverable & sustainable. Where infrastructure is already in place & would have less impact on surrounding communities. The road network already in place with less traffic impact once completed. They already have good links to main road and railway transport.

How is this 'logical' to blight the entire village with years of construction work, construction traffic, overall traffic congestion on the junctions to the A31 with the attendant noise, air pollution and effect on the mental health and wellbeing of the existing residents who live in Four Marks?

Although in the main, I support the Local Plan; I urge you to consider the points I have raised above.

Thanking you for taking the time to read my response.

Kind regards



Resident of Four Marks

Response to EHDC Draft Local Plan 2021-2040

Fri 01/03/2024 18:23

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

I would have preferred to respond to the above via your online consultation link but found it impossible to navigate. It is not at all user-friendly so I am writing here to express my views regarding the above. I fear other people will simply give up, which will have an adverse effect on your response rate and therefore the validity of the Consultation process.

Regarding the Plan itself I would like to comment as follows.

Part A: Planning for the future of East Hampshire

I am aware that our MP has raised in Parliament, seemingly to no avail, the matter of East Hants being significantly and almost uniquely constrained by the proportion of its area under SDNP authority in which only a tiny proportion of the East Hants housing need is met. I feel strongly that this continues to be a major problem for East Hants which should be resolved either by a reduction in overall housing numbers, or a greater proportion of housing being supplied within the SDNP, to avoid the desecration of more and more green fields and farmland and the location of housing in the wrong place where sufficient employment and need does not exist, contrary to EHDC's stated Vision and Objectives.

The fact that Alton is now the stand-alone Tier 1 settlement when previously Whitehill & Bordon was too is unacceptable. The latter represents an extensive re-generation of former MoD land and as such re-purposes brownfield land and has attracted significant investment in local infrastructure. The same cannot be said for Alton which already has and continues to meet significant housing numbers for East Hants with so far a lack of significant investment in infrastructure and little sign of it moving forwards.

Part B: Greener places

This heading is a contradiction in terms. Due to significant new housing in Alton particularly over the past 25 years, the options for continuing to grow the town whilst "safeguarding the environment" are now limited. The settlement is now 3 miles x 2 miles and is constrained by the A31, the Watercress Line and the outlying topography. It will be impossible to impose a further 1,700 houses on the town without significant environmental harm to the surrounding countryside, and impossible to deliver reduced carbon emissions as any site would be car-dependent, being by necessity far away from the town centre.

I welcome the absence of Chawton Park Farm in the current Draft Local Plan – of the possible strategic sites that have been considered in and around Alton it is the least sustainable, primarily due to its location, inaccessibility and inadequate highways infrastructure, and its location within a Valued Landscape surrounded by ancient woodland, used for varied recreation by many. This has been well documented by The Alton Society during presentation of its objections to Council in Clanfield in October 2023.

However my comments under Visions and Objectives refer – if the issue of housing numbers were resolved it would not be necessary to identify a strategic large site, which would avoid the desecration of ANY of the large green sites around Alton in the interests of satisfying arbitrary numbers.

I am concerned about the potential for flooding in and around Alton, evidenced for example where extensive house building on sloped land continues along Chawton Park Road. Rainwater run-off in Alton's valley will worsen the more building there is, and mature tree removal and built environments will not be mitigated quickly enough by the planting of saplings.

I am appalled by the poor site layout and build quality of some of the new housing in Alton, notably Ackender Hill, which does not fill me with confidence that future developments will indeed be “desirable places” to live.

Part C: Vibrant communities

Proposed further development in Alton will push the opportunity for active lifestyles in a natural environment further from the reach of many residents. A built environment is no substitute for a natural one. In respect of Neatham Down, the site is less extensively used for recreation than others at present and so perhaps represents an opportunity to create new recreation, but there is zero evidence in the Plan what that might be so until there is more detail we cannot be confident of its delivery or adequacy.

With the exception of the overhaul of the Alton Leisure Centre (which was very overdue anyway) there is little or no evidence of “delivering the facilities needed to support a healthy lifestyle” in association with new housing thus far. An HII for a large development may account for the health and wellbeing of its new occupants but does it account for the detriment to the existing local community? We should not forget that Alton’s infrastructure also supports surrounding villages such as Froyle, Beech, Shalden, Lasham, Holyborne, Bentley (now minus a GP surgery), Binsted, Bentworth, Chawton, Farringdon, and less so Four Marks and Medstead by virtue of their GP surgeries – far more outlying villages than either North-East or South.

I do not believe for one moment that building in Alton on this scale will do anything other than draw people out of London and more urban areas to live in a more rural location, whilst commuting to their employment elsewhere, by car or perhaps by driving to the railway station to commute to London. Carbon emissions will rise, not fall. The effect of the SDNP is to drive house prices up not just in the Park but in the surrounding areas, making it unaffordable to many.

With regard to local facilities it is a fact that Altonians travel to Basingstoke/Winchester/Guildford/Southampton to shop, other than for groceries and incidentals, and for leisure, because the town centre (much as we love it) has not grown with the town. This car-dependent theme will continue based on this Plan.

I value the need for suitable housing for an ageing population but I think the elderly housing market in Alton is now saturated. However I would like to see more affordable housing for the young, though I am not sure that local market forces can be overcome given the inflationary effect of the SDNP.

Part D: Development management policies and site allocations

With regard to North site allocations, I note that other than GP surgery expansions (they are already over-subscribed) and very small employment expansion, the sites are all for housing and there is NO improvement to local amenities or infrastructure planned – my previous comments about the lack of investment in Alton when compared with lesser Tiers refer. The imbalance between Alton and its former Tier 1 bedfellow Bordon & Whitehill is clear.

In my view the focus on Alton is flawed, more of the housing need could and should be shared across East Hants, especially South given its proximity to significant employment areas such as Portsmouth, Whiteley etc,

But fundamentally, the constraints caused by almost 60% of the area being within the SDNP should not mean that nearly 60% of the East Hants housing need between 2021 and 2040 be delivered by one former market town that has already borne more than its fair share of housing development.

██████████
██████████



28 February 2024

Objection to RLC2 in local plan

Dear Team,

I would like to register my objection to RLC1 and RLC2 being in the local plan.

This site represents part of the site that was rejected by the planning officer in 2004, the reasons being

- Effect of development on the character or appearance of the Rowlands Castle conservation area is especially important
- Development could not be undertaken in such a way as to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area
- Parts of the development would be seen during the winter months, when there is less leaf cover, through the tracery of trees and hedges. It would most certainly be visible from the bridleway/road, from which access would be gained at all times of the year
- In 1997, an inspector dismissed an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Mew development adjacent to the house "Deerleap" because of harm that it would cause to the conservation area. That decision is still relevant, in that I agree with that inspectors' assessment of the special qualities of the conservation area and the harm that residential development would have on it.
- Irrespective of the degree to which it might be seen, the actual presence of development on this reserve site would materially detract from the open character of this part of the conservation area and from that area in its entirety. It would irretrievably erode the firm rural edge to the conservation area and the setting of the village whereabouts to a degree that it would be profoundly harmful to both. Development of this land would fly in the face of the relevant legislation that is designed to protect these areas. It should not be countenanced.

In addition, this site supports a diverse population of wildlife. This includes 3 types of deer, great crested newts, bats, dormice, snakes as well as a variety of birds. The population density on this site has increased since the development of surrounding land.

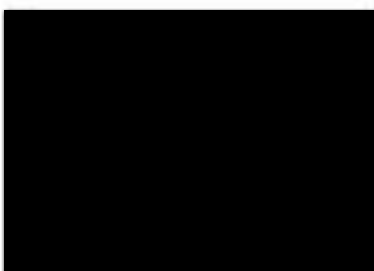
The proposed site is on a flood plane and flooding is already prevalent along Red Hill Road especially by the Church on the Green following heavy rain. Development of the site will exacerbate this.

Access to the site will be off Deerleap Lane. This is a busy road, already serving 2 developments, with a difficult junction onto Red Hill Road. Deerleap Lane cannot be widened due to abutting properties. Sadly, there has already been 1 death of a pedestrian at this site and further development will exacerbate these difficulties.

The need to develop RLC1 and RLC2 has to be questioned as the other 2 sites proposed would easily be able to accommodate the proposed 13 houses RLC1 and RLC2 would contribute. In 20 years, the life of this plan, most of these 13 homes would probably be met by windfall developments alone.

For all the above reasons I think both RLC1 and RLC2 should be removed from the local plan.





28 February 2024

Objection to RLC1 in local plan

Dear Team,

I would like to register my objection to RLC1 and RLC2 being in the local plan.

This site represents part of the site that was rejected by the planning officer in 2004, the reasons being

- Effect of development on the character or appearance of the Rowlands Castle conservation area is especially important
- Development could not be undertaken in such a way as to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area
- Parts of the development would be seen during the winter months, when there is less leaf cover, through the tracery of trees and hedges. It would most certainly be visible from the bridleway/road, from which access would be gained at all times of the year
- In 1997, an inspector dismissed an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the Mew development adjacent to the house "Deerleap" because of harm that it would cause to the conservation area. That decision is still relevant, in that I agree with that inspectors' assessment of the special qualities of the conservation area and the harm that residential development would have on it.
- Irrespective of the degree to which it might be seen, the actual presence of development on this reserve site would materially detract from the open character of this part of the conservation area and from that area in its entirety. It would irretrievably erode the firm rural edge to the conservation area and the setting of the village whereabouts to a degree that it would be profoundly harmful to both. Development of this land would fly in the face of the relevant legislation that is designed to protect these areas. It should not be countenanced.

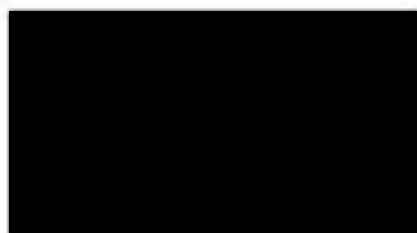
In addition, this site supports a diverse population of wildlife. This includes 3 types of deer, great crested newts, bats, dormice, snakes as well as a variety of birds. The population density on this site has increased since the development of surrounding land.

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Access to the site will be off Deerleap Lane. This is a busy road, already serving 2 developments, with a difficult junction onto Red Hill Road. Deerleap Lane cannot be widened due to abutting properties. Sadly, there has already been 1 death of a pedestrian at this site and further development will exacerbate these difficulties.

The need to develop RLC1 and RLC2 has to be questioned as the other 2 sites proposed would easily be able to accommodate the proposed 13 houses RLC1 and RLC2 would contribute. In 20 years, the life of this plan, most of these 13 homes would probably be met by windfall developments alone.

For all the above reasons I think both RLC1 and RLC2 should be removed from the local plan.



New Housing for Clanfield

[REDACTED]
Fri 01/03/2024 18:12

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Greetings,

Regarding the new housing for Clanfield under the proposed Local housing plan. With the total of 180 new houses under the plan what new infrastructure are you also proposing ?

The current Dr surgery and schools are finding it difficult to cope after the last new housing development at the end of Green lane, the telephone lines are at full capacity and the road structures full of pot holes! And that is before you even think about the utilities, open spaces and amenities. Local public transport only runs to the proposed housing once per hour unlike the once every 15 mins

180 new houses in the village puts a possible extra 360 cars on the roads, 360+ children into the local schools as well as strains on the local amenities.

I am not objecting to the expansion of housing into the village however the local infrastructure MUST be updated to take not only new housing but also the last additions to the village into account. The only additional infrastructure we as a village received last time was a Bowles club and a community centre both of which had to be hard fort for by the parish council. The promised money from the developers for upgrading the Dr surgery ended up in the NHS black hole and not ring fenced for Clanfield.

Without vital upgrades to the village as a whole infrastructures I along with many others in the village will be objecting to the proposals. Many times we as a village were promised better broad band, a new or upgraded Dr surgery , upgraded roads , utilities drainage and schools none of which materialised after the housing developments arrived. You are turning a small rural community into a small town but without the associated infrastructure. Funding for the upgrades to the infrastructure must be better managed than in the past and not allowing it to be hijacked into other EHDC or HCC projects / services.

Yours [REDACTED]



Virus-free. www.avg.com

[REDACTED] - Comments on Local Plan - Proposed Sites

[REDACTED]

Sun 03/03/2024 21:42

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

[REDACTED]

Please include these as comments for the current Local Plan Consultation.

The Local plan is a good and well written document with many well thought out sections particularly those on building requirements that will help to tackle climate change.

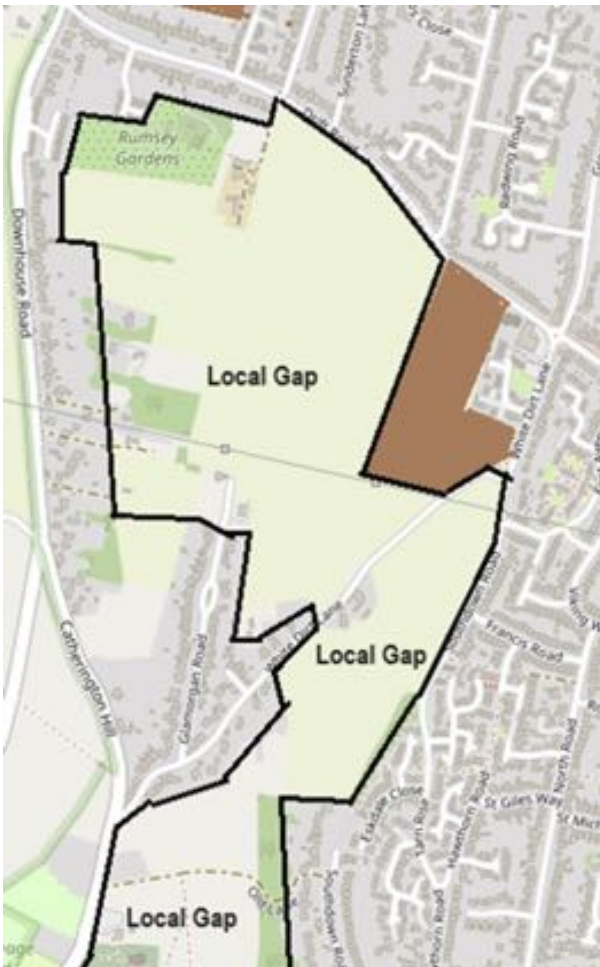
However, I would like to make specific comments on the proposed sites. Specifically CFD2 Land at Drift Road, which particularly affects the local gap between [REDACTED] Horndean Downs, Clanfield and Catherington.

CFD2 Land at Drift Road

Gaps Between Settlements Background paper – January 2024 has the following Gaps criteria:

b) "Sufficient separation between settlements - A gap should provide a sense of arriving/leaving a place, a feeling of separation, the identity of which would be lost by coalescence." - you covered this beautifully in what you put in your email.

Including this map of the new proposed “local gap” and proposed area CFD2 to help my explanation:



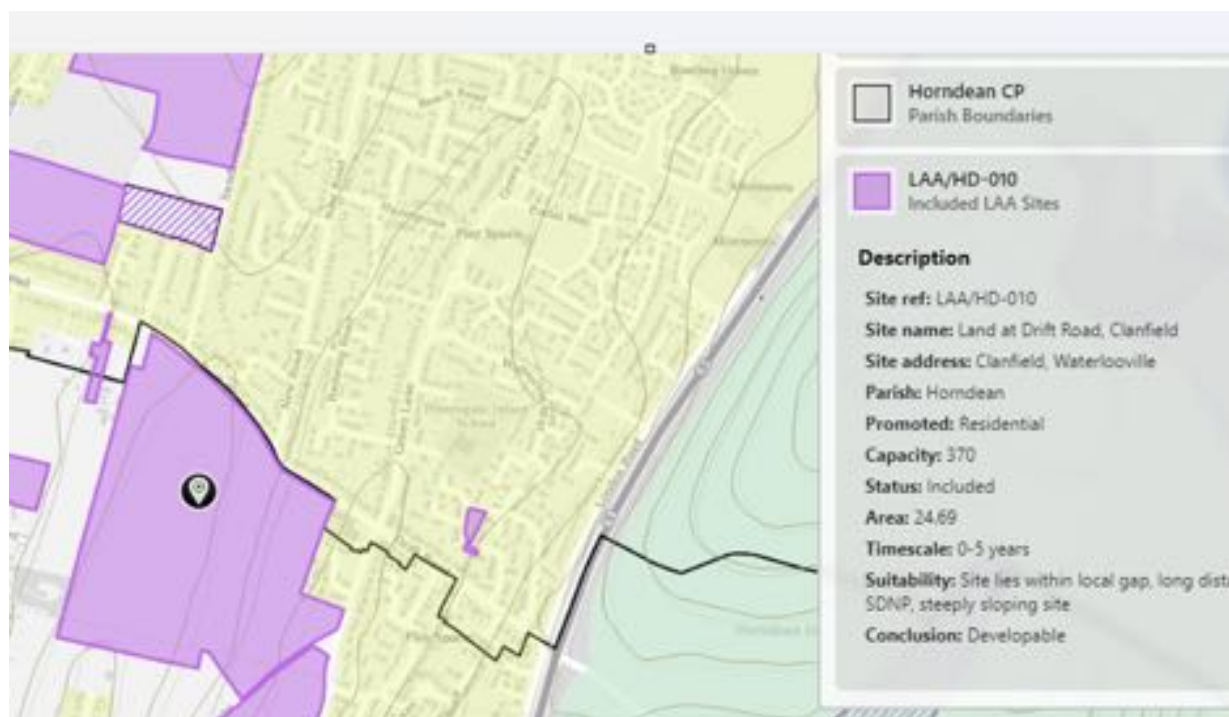
Horndean and Clanfield are connected/ contiguous on their eastern side with a common boundary. However, there is currently a wide and significant rural gap between the two settlements on the western side. It is a key feature of this landscape when viewed from Southdown Rd and White Dirt Lane and the Horndean Downs

Ward. As you look up to the west you view an agricultural landscape rising to the horizon with the South Downs National Park beyond. Viewing the same field from the western half of Drift Rd, from Clanfield looking south, again it is a key landscape feature that of a large agricultural field effectively separating Clanfield, Horndean and Catherington. As you move up Southdown road northwards, there is a strong sense of leaving the very urbanised built-up part of Horndean (Downs Ward) and arriving in Clanfield.

The building of 80 homes at CFD2 Land at Drift Road would look to comprise this gap and reduces the sense of arriving / leaving because right now as you move up Southdown Rd currently there is no development to the west of this road. However, with CFD2 It would extend the heavily urbanised area currently contained in Horndean (Downs) across Southdown road and White Dirt Lane and around the existing small development at Godwin Crescent. The local gap and its purpose would then be compromised.

c) "Aligning to a recognised feature - The boundary of a gap should consider the existing vegetation and land uses (gardens, footpaths, hedgerows, streams, field boundaries, woodlands and backs of houses). These act as a robust edge to a gap (act as visual screen to housing). However, in many cases the boundaries should, where possible, align to the Settlement Policy Boundaries"

The Gap below Drift road currently has a clear boundary of Drift road itself with no development to the south until you get to the shops. There is also a clear boundary of Southdown Road with no development to its west side. What clear boundary are we creating by taking this extra chunk below drift road with CFD2? This compromises the boundary below Drift road and also then we have development to the west of Southdown road – so the clear boundaries of the gap are lost by this development. Also, it seems clear that we are creating a precedent that the gap starts to become a small strip. The Gap becomes a small strip between Glamorgan road area/ Upper part of White dirt land and the edge of the new proposed development. So, if this is the case, surely that leaves us open to having further developments in the fields directly below Drift Road to the west of the new proposed area towards Rumsey gardens? I also note in the "infrastructure requirements" of "CFD2" it states that provision of land of a new surgery should be considered including within the wider area that has been promoted as site HD-010 in the Land Availability Assessment. Checking the "HD-010 area" is the full field below Drift road (see diagram below). So, this of course would then be within the area the local plan is designating as the specific area for the local gap – so here we have the documents contradicting themselves. Either this is considered local gap land, and shouldn't be developed on for this local plan or it isn't? This demonstrates the fears from residents that the local gap will just move as the need continues for the area to take further allocations of housing in the future.



Infrastructure constraints for CFD2 (This affects CFD1 and other Horndean proposed areas)

Clanfield and Horndean suffer from infrastructure issue – shops, doctors, schools etc plus transport – no local train station, inadequate bus services that take too long because of the distances involved, car use a problem with roads not built for the numbers, plus issues with parking.

An example of the infrastructure issues is **Doctors' surgeries** in the local area.

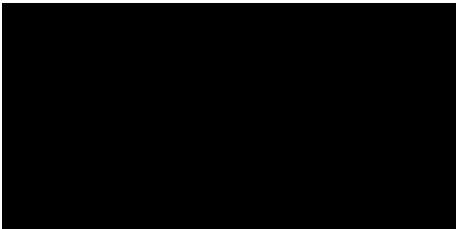
The local health authority letter on planning application 60033 - 117 dwellings at Five heads road, states that the existing doctors' surgeries are 144% oversubscribed. It was previously looked at expanding the doctors' surgery at Clanfield. EHDC was willing to use CIL funds, but the Local Health Authority (who needed to fund 1/3 of the bill) had no funds or priority for this which resulted in no expansion. So how is this going to change? Because if we cannot even get the current site to be expanded, how would the health authority be amenable to create a new surgery site at greater cost ?

The Horndean and Clanfield continue to suffer from lack of infrastructure for the number of homes in the area, in particular as compared to other areas in EHDC. S106 and CIL money doesn't appear to solve the issue either - as little of it gets spent here because we have such poor infrastructure in the first place and so few facilities to expand / invest in.

Flooding

When it rains, water collects at the bottom of the hill at the bottom of White Dirt Lane. This overwhelms the storm drains which then overflow into the sewers. The sewers then can become blocked, and the result is quite deep water which threaten the properties at the beginning of Godwin crescent. More recently Southern water is clearing the sewers more often, which has helped the issue. However, CFD2 will simply increase the flooding issue, as rain that would normally be soaked up by the field will continue down the hill.

Regards



[REDACTED] - Response to EH Local Plan Consultation

Sun 03/03/2024 11:49

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

Cc:[REDACTED]

Dear Planning Officers.

Given the urgent need to build more homes, in particular more quality affordable homes, in East Hants and to counteract the “tilted balance” argument which favours speculative development, I support this draft Local Plan. As a [REDACTED] who lives in Petersfield, within the South Downs National Park and whose [REDACTED] is therefore not directly affected, I have nevertheless scrutinised the document as it will strongly influence the policies in the revision of the SD Local Plan, and the long-term the sustainability of development in the district as a whole. I have also studied the detailed comments submitted to you by:

1. Petersfield Climate Action Network, **PeCAN**, which focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation, active travel provision and the environment.
2. Draft comments submitted by the Council for the Protection of Rural England Hampshire, **CPREH**, which focus on housing need calculations and conclusions, and the environment.

I am very supportive of most of the comments and proposed additions / changes made by these two independent bodies. I have not reproduced their analysis and arguments here; I find them convincing and hope that the EHDC Planning Officers will too.

From 1. PeCAN

I **support** the proposed additional wording to the Vision statement: we suggest adding the nature emergency to the vision as follows “...respond positively to the climate emergency and the nature emergency.” Page 41 of my printed copy.

Policy CLIM1: Tackling the Climate Emergency - Strongly support subject to the small improvements proposed by PeCAN

See PeCAN comments on East Hants draft Local Plan 2021-2040, Regulation submitted 18, February 2024

Section 8: Developing Green Connections

Please note PeCAN’s General Comments about Section 8 8 that **at an early stage in the planning process**, the matters discussed in the following should be given full consideration.

- Opportunities for safe, step-free, fully accessible walking and cycling site access points must be maximised, and these should exceed the number of access points provided solely for motor vehicles (except where additional accesses would provide no benefit to people walking, wheeling and cycling).
- Within a site, routes for walking, wheeling and cycling should be shorter and more direct than the equivalent by car.
- Proposals should not prejudice the connectivity of existing and future development.

Policy DGC2 Sustainable Transport – Strongly support subject to inclusion of detailed improvements provided by PeCAN

This please consider including PeCAN’s recommended improvements which strengthen the policies, *inter alia*, the following statements

- “ The proposed street design should remove opportunities for indiscriminate and obstructive parking that would cause safety hazards and prevent access by active modes of travel.

- “Streets, footways and cycle routes must be adequately lit at night to provide safety and security for all users.

Policy DGC3 New and Improved Community Facilities – Strongly support (as above)

From 2. CPREH

Policy S1 - Spatial Strategy - Some Support with Strong Concerns

Like CPREH, I support the building of the 7,125 new homes to meet the local need, recognising that there are young people moving out of the district because they cannot find the appropriate accommodation. For the arguments made by CPREH, I am not convinced by the additional buffer numbers which total no less than 4,764 additional homes, which will all also be allocated within the EHP area and is used to justify the allocation of a large green field site east south east of the A31 in Alton at Neatham Manor Farm, Alton. (I look forward to the explanation that is due to be given to [REDACTED]).

Policy S2 - Settlement Hierarchy - Support with some Concerns

I agree with CPREH concerns about the application of the concept of the ‘**20 minute Neighbourhood**’. During the period of the Plan, CPREH do not believe that this concept is going to be able to be applied in any practical way outside the larger and more sustainable settlements.

Policy NBE1 - Development in the Countryside - Strong Concerns This policy needs to state, as a fundamental requirement, that development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that **a countryside location is both necessary and justified**.

NBE10.1 refers to *value* of the landscape, Para 5.72 states that the special qualities of the Area's *valued landscapes* must be respected, and Para 5.75 states new development should be designed and located to protect and enhance *valued and high quality landscapes*. Yet, there is no specific policy to protect valued landscapes. I agree with CPREH that this is important and should be included.

NBE11 - Gaps Between Settlements - Support with strong Concern

A close-in settlement policy boundary has been shown to provide protection against backland development on the edge of the settlement, and so protect settlement gaps. So, a strong concern is the way new settlement policy boundaries have been drawn, notably at those settlements which have not had settlement policy boundaries in the past. These have been drawn widely, and this will allow backland development within Policy DM17.1, which risks undermining gaps between settlement and the identity and character of the settlement.

Policy H2 - Housing Mix and Type – Strong support with Recommendations

I strongly support the observation made in **H2.1** about the need for smaller homes to be built in the District. By smaller homes, I like CPREH understand that this would be 1-2 bedroom homes which would meet the two critical needs highlighted by the HEDNA – the provision of homes for

- Young couples who are trying to get onto the housing ladder
- Older citizens who are hoping to ‘down-size’.

I agree with CPREH that the draft Local Plan significantly understates the scale of the challenge that the district faces in addressing these policy requirements. The scale of the challenge can be seen from

- The Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessment (HEDNA), which examined housing and employment needs within East Hampshire (2022). Table 6.10 shows that more than 100% of the growth in population will come from the 65+ age group.
- Affordability. With the Affordability Ratio of 54% there is clearly an affordability crisis.

The evidence base suggests that there is a **need for more robust policies to support 'smaller housing'**.

I support CPREH' recommendation that a policy statement as to the minimum percentage of smaller homes that would be required on any development of more than 5 houses. Based on the evidence provided by the HEDNA, we recommend that **this figure should be at least 75%**.

Policy H3 - Affordable Housing - Support with Concerns and Recommendations

The policies that support the provision of affordable housing to not go far enough considering the need in East Hampshire . I am convinced by the argument put forward by CPREH which highlights the fact that there are two different concepts when considering affordability

- houses for those whose needs are not met by the market.
- market houses that are affordable ie 'houses that are put on the market at a price that is below the median house price for the District'

So, to meet the challenge of the affordability crisis, CPREH recommend that within **H3.1**

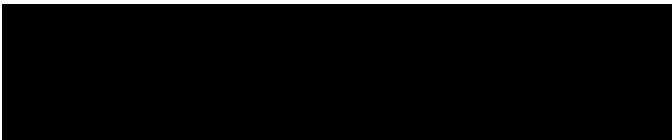
- the 40% requirement for 'affordable homes' is increased, and
- a robust is added policy to ensure that a significant percentage of the market homes are put on the market at a price below the median house price for the District.

The Policy also refers to social housing, which we support, but are concerned that the challenge of need for social housing identified in the HEDNA will not be met by the requirement set out in **H3.1(ii)**

Policy H3.1(ii) This Policy refers to **social housing**, which I **strongly support**, but like CPREH I am concerned that the challenge of need for social housing in East Hants identified in the HEDNA will not be met by the requirement set out here.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment by email. Thank you for all the care and hard work that EHDC Planning officers have invested in the draft Local Plan and in this consultation.

Yours sincerely



Response to the draft local plan

[REDACTED]
Fri 08/03/2024 14:02

To:EHDC - Local Plan <LocalPlan@easthants.gov.uk>

Cc:[REDACTED]

Good afternoon

I am writing to comment on specific aspects of the local plan only. I particularly support the policies relating to climate change and believe we should push to keep these as robust as possible despite the government rolling back on the green agenda. My other comments are specifically related to Horndean.

HND3 - Land north of Chalk Hill Road

This site is in Horndean Downs ward but borders [REDACTED] of Horndean Murray and the impacts of development will be felt mainly by [REDACTED] residents. I have concerns that landscaping would be able to mitigate against the negative aspects of building on this prominent site, however my main issue is with regards to the traffic 38 new homes here will generate and the impact on 'the local road network'. In the local plan document it states on access, that connection to the local road network could be achieved through upgrading and widening Chalk Hill Road. There is no discussion of the wider traffic issues. Cars are often parked on Highcroft Lane near the junction with Chalk Hill Road, not an issue with only a few houses in Chalk Hill but an extra 38 homes would make that a difficult junction to exit from and cause difficulty for the residents in Highcroft Lane/Durlands Road if there is insufficient visitor parking on the site. But the bigger issue is Five Heads Road which traffic will have to use to enter and exit this site. Five Heads Road is a narrow country lane for most of it's length. Going from the recreation ground north towards Catherington Lane, two cars cannot easily pass each other and not at all in parts without one pulling in to let the other pass. From the recreation ground towards Portsmouth Road, the road is wider but there is a blind bend near the One Stop shop at the junction with Merchistoun Road where there are also two schools, Horndean Infant and Junior schools. The rear exit of the junior school is on Five Heads road at the rear of the One Stop shop. This is a difficult bend and junction to traverse at most times of the day but at school times, especially at the close of the school day it is severely congested.

So any transport assessment must take into account the impact of the development on Five Heads road itself and should not make the assumption that it appears to in the local plan that the local road networks are adequate.

Horndean in Settlement Hierarchy 2

I was more comfortable with Horndean being a tier 2 settlement while Whitehill & Bordon was tier 1 but I cannot agree that the two are comparable and should be in the same tier. I cannot comment on Liphook as I don't know it well but Whitehill & Bordon has far more facilities than Horndean. A new town centre is being created there, it has a leisure centre, it has a Tesco superstore and a Lidl and a Morrisons supermarket is planned for the town centre. The regeneration area in Whitehill & Bordon has meant that there is a coherent plan for restructuring the town with facilities that will never be replicated in Horndean. Just because the decision was made that Whitehill & Bordon is no longer comparable with Alton as a tier 1 settlement, does not automatically mean that it should join Liphook & Horndean in tier 2.

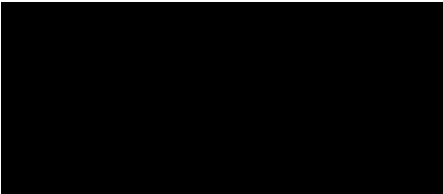
On reviewing the plan again there seems to be a disparity on what is actually Horndean. On page 391, the population and household figures given for Horndean relate to the whole parish area, whereas the figures for housing numbers per settlement are split between Horndean, Lovedean, Catherington and even part of Clanfield (south of Drift Road). I understand that this breakdown relates to settlements so Horndean allocation is listed as 320 houses against W&B's 667. But does the tier 2 status just reflect the area within the Horndean settlement boundary or does it also include Catherington, Lovedean and the south of Drift Road?

Objective A3

Horndean has suffered over the last few decades with a considerable amount of development but still with much of the infrastructure of a smaller village. It is a large settlement in relation to housing numbers but not in relation to infrastructure. It lacks a sense of place and the new LEOH development will not improve that. There are very few shops, no dentist and one GP surgery that, like others nearby, is oversubscribed.

Objective A3 - Ensure our defined town and village centres provide a range of retail and associated activities to maintain and improve their vitality and viability - is a great objective to have and I fully support it, however I'm not sure I understand how the Local Plan will achieve this in respect of Horndean which has no defined centre. At the moment placemaking follows development and is restricted by it. It should lead development. It may be too late for this local plan but placemaking in the future should be the start of the local plan process.

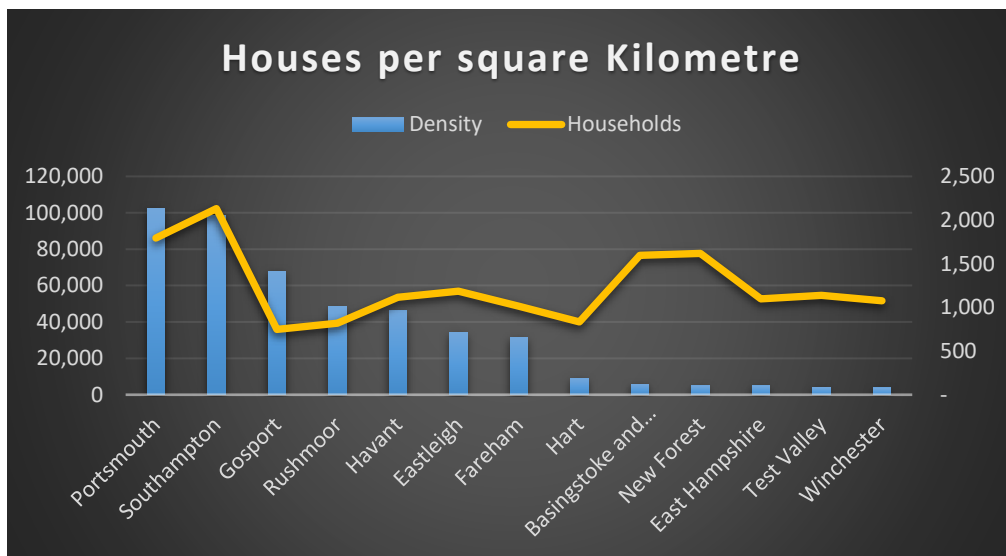
Best regards



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and please delete the message from your system immediately.

Local Plan Strategy Summary

The second consultation of the East Hants Local Plan is much improved in terms of policy coverage. It is of course not deliverable in its current form and it is difficult to say whether it will provide the required protection against unsustainable and environmental damaging market led development. It must be said that trying to fund community services through Hampshire County Council by building so many new houses in previously low-density high cost to serve areas has failed. All it has done is to attract the wealthy residents of our cities to work from home in a rural idyl, and that has brought serious damage to the financial sustainability of our Councils. City councils are short on revenue and rural councils cannot provide the services at a reasonable cost.



We cannot continue with this policy and we must build the new houses in the cities.

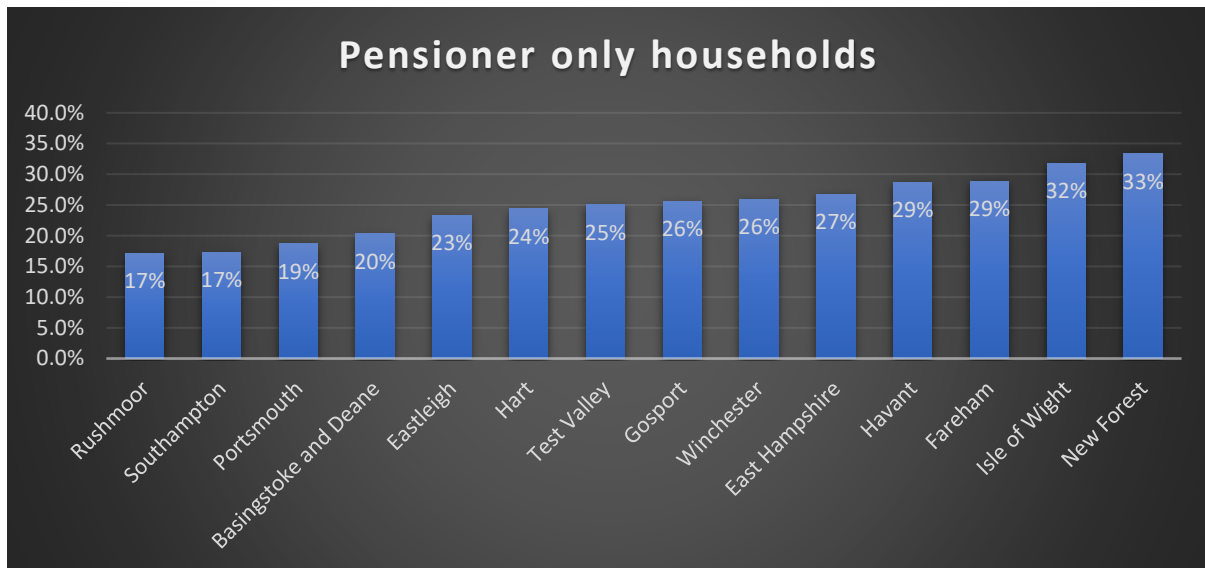
Housing Need

The truth about the “growth” of East Hants between 2011 and 2022, based on the ONS census data. The number of domestic households increased by 12% and that was because more people came from the cities to our rural area as they could afford to buy the houses and work from home. We had a 14% rise in the number of cars on drives. As the population increased by only 9% the average household size fell as young people went to the cities to find work. Our population profile aged significantly and the birth rate locally fell in line with the national average. Despite the increase in people the number employed stayed the same. The pandemic dramatically changed the profile of employment. The biggest losers were manufacturing (20% fall), accommodation and food services (14% fall) and retail (7% fall). The biggest gainers were administration jobs (28% growth), construction (22% growth) and Health & Social Care (20% growth). The private sector declined substantially and a lot more of us work for the government now or are dependent upon the value of land and property. It is time for change and the local plan should be an opportunity to support local businesses and produce new jobs for younger people.

More houses mean more council tax revenue but the cost of our ageing population is threatening the sustainability of our district.

The long-term trend between 2011 and 2021 is no longer relevant. What happened in 2020 was a pandemic and a great flight from the cities of people in their forties and fifties to a rural area such as East Hampshire where they were able to work from home or retire to a rural way of life. The ONS

have provided the detail for 2021 and 2022 and the data required to make a new long term forecast but they are yet to produce those new forecasts. The census data of 2021 shows the percentage of households that are pensioner only.



The ONS components

	East Hampshire
Estimated Population mid-2021	126,192
Births	1,073
Deaths	1,206
Births minus Deaths	-133
Internal Migration Inflow	8,290
Internal Migration Outflow	7,378
Internal Migration Net	912
International Migration Inflow	768
International Migration Outflow	470
International Migration Net	298
Other	50
Estimated Population mid-2022	127,319
Growth	1,127
% Growth	1%
2022 people per sq. km	247

The long-term trend is for deaths to be above births and the birth rate continues to fall in East Hampshire because of the shortage of both employment for young adults and the lack of socially affordable housing. The deaths will continue to rise because of the ageing of the population as many have moved from the city to a rural area in retirement after the children have left the family home.

Internal migration within the region is significant but international net migration is not. Over 7,000 young adults (graduates) have moved to the cities in search of work. Over 8,000 older adults have moved from the cities to the rural area to work from home or retire. Commuting was shown in the Census to be very low post-pandemic.

The age profile changes are significant but we are not going to see a 36% increase in the over 65 age group between now and 2038. Most of this age group will no longer be alive in this time frame and the assumption that they will be replaced by a continuation of the flight from the cities is now questionable. The real problem is the management of the social care of this age group when they are living in large traditionally built houses with many spare bedrooms. The real housing need is amongst 25-35-year-olds who want to start a family. If we do not slow the graduate exodus then the rural areas and our primary schools will die.

Having said all that, the number of 200 new houses in Four Marks is a sensible proposal but they all need to be socially affordable housing for both the younger generation and the elderly. The A31 is a major air and noise pollution area, and any more traffic will make it worse, We have a massive surplus of houses with four or more bedrooms that will pass to the next generation through inheritance. The best solution is to employ a housing association to manage the stock of houses as they become available. Converting four-or-five-bedroom houses to two retirement suitable properties would get the housing chain moving and generate more economic growth than building new houses on greenfield land. This is essential to encourage the elderly to downsize and provide the right size of houses for the future population. Boundaries surgery needs to be enlarged and moved away from the A31 into the heart of the village, probably behind 103 Blackberry Lane where it would be convenient to more residents and the large old people's home. The Boundaries site could be redeveloped for young family style housing. The Watercress site should become a centre for well-being in the village, providing a minor health problem and diagnostic scanning centre, physiotherapy and other health related support services including a pharmacy. We need to redevelop the centre of the community around the station as proposed in the last neighbourhood plan

Employment Opportunities

The rural nature of Four Marks, Medstead and Chawton is not exploited at all and the "empty nesters" who have moved in from the cities are not yet integrated into the community. They work from home and use on-line shopping and home delivery rather than the local retail offerings. The regular weekly food shop is done elsewhere or one of the large supermarket chains deliver to the homes in the village. Very much a car dependent community. Clearly, we need to develop our rural offering in both retail and other household services in the area. A farm shop, arts & crafts centre, saddlery and horse-riding centre, a licensed restaurant/pub in a rural setting, even overnight accommodation for long distance walkers and cyclists. The area at the top of Alton Lane with the junction to Telegraph Lane is the ideal location for a rural hub of services as it sits where the St Swithun's Way crosses from Winchester to Chawton and enters the South Downs National Park. The other opportunity to attract more employing businesses is to provide a lower energy zone with wind turbines and a solar farm. The regeneration of the community will provide a longer-term solution to the affordability issue with our housing stock.

Clean Water Supply

The local plan seems very confused over the sections regarding water supply. The problem is that Climate Change is delivering a warmer and wetter weather. The use of land for agriculture is facing diminishing returns and excessive housing & road development means we are failing to retain that water on the clay plateau to the North and West of the district. We are also mixing a lot more of the domestic and agricultural waste with that water. The focus on the problems with flooding in the valleys is attacking the symptoms and not the root cause of the problems. The excess drain-off of grey water onto the roads is the root cause of the potholes. The clay plateau used to be covered with ancient woodlands that retained the water and enriched the soil naturally every Autumn. The excess water would reach the chalk layer and pass through slowly being cleansed by the chalk as it

fed the rivers. Even the Wey was a chalk stream at one time. The removal of the trees, hedges and ponds with modern agriculture has done immense damage to the environment. We now have a thin layer of poor clay soil that does not retain the water or support the growing of crops without the addition of artificial nutrients. Sheep graze on most of this higher ground. The land is suitable for wind and solar farms to provide sustainable and cheap energy to the population. Allowing the excess water to be retained in drainage ditches and ponds supports the need to let it soak down through the chalk and supply our rivers. Allowing it to flow down the roads and into a drainage system means that it is mixed with waste before it reaches the homes that need clean water. Capturing the water on the higher ground can reduce the flooding downstream. In Four Marks we have a river valley running North to South through the centre and it should be included as a flood risk area.

Rural Connectivity & Rural Sports

There are ancient paths that cross the district in an East and West direction. The South Downs Way is a well-documented and supported. It connects Winchester with Brighton. The North Downs Way encompassing what used to be pilgrim's way connecting Winchester to Canterbury (via Chawton, Farnham and Guildford) has been lost to the A31. The St Swithun's Way also connected Winchester and London, passing through Alton. A major issue is that there is little in the way of connectivity for long distance walkers, cyclists, and horse riders across the Northern section of East Hampshire District without using the A31. There was a roman road from Silchester (Basingstoke) to Chichester which went through Neatham (Alton) and Petersfield where it connected with the South Downs Way.

In Four Marks the primary school is located near where the pilgrim's way and St Swithun's way run parallel down towards Chawton. The South Downs National Park starts at Four Marks and there is a clear need to provide a cycle and bridleway to cross the village from East to West to remove the cycling and horse-riding traffic from what are very dangerous roads. Similarly, we should complete the bridleway from Medstead to Chawton. Connecting the northern part of the district with its heritage railway, Jane Austen's Chawton and Gilbert White's Selbourne provides a significant tourist hub and opportunities for employment.

The sports facilities in Four Marks reflect the older population. A small golf club, badminton and a bowls club. There is no longer a cricket club and the football club is struggling to survive. The Parish Council focus on traditional sports and our equestrian sports are neglected. Walking is popular and many have tried to cycle the country lanes. Fitness and mental wellbeing would be much improved if there were safe places to ride (on an electric bike or a horse) and the widening of existing paths and removal or opening up of kissing gates is all that is required.