

1 Chiddenbrook Cottages

Crediton

EX17 3PD

21 March 2014

Dear Planning Officer

Re: Local Planning in Crediton – Housing Proposals



I write representing our whole family.

Of the options offered, we prefer the idea of building a new town near Willand.

If there is to be new building in Crediton, we feel it should be on the Eastern side of the town. Wellparks would be acceptable in that it is nearer Exeter, it will be by the new by-pass and Tesco, it will cause minimum disruption to neighbouring properties and will cause less congestion and pollution in the High Street than building to the West of town.

We live adjacent to the proposed site opposite Westernlea. This was erroneously referred to in the plans as 'Westwood Farm', rather than its correct name of 'Chiddenbrook', and as a result many people were led to believe that the proposal concerned fields on the Westwood side of the area. Unfortunately in the storms, the planning advice notice on the Chiddenbrook field was destroyed, so again, many people were unaware of the plans until informed by word of mouth.

Our comments re: the proposals for this development of 'Westwood Farm' are as listed:

1. The area in question floods heavily, and more so since the development of Queen Elizabeth drive on the opposite side of the A377. The storm drains have not prevented water levels rising over the banks and into the gardens of the houses on the stream side of Westernlea. Flooding occurs not only from the stream, but also from the fields above; this winter alone, six trees were brought down by torrents of water pouring down from the fields above the proposed site, and the hedges were eroded. A stream of brown water surged steadily through the proposed site and down to the stream for three months.
2. Congestion in the Threshers area is already overpowering and sometimes dangerous, with patients from the surgery and small schoolchildren at risk from so much traffic. More

housing and therefore more cars in the proposed Westwood Farm site would take this congestion beyond any acceptable level.

3. Most of the people living in this area already drive through the High Street and back on a daily basis, either for work or for Tesco, the station, petrol etc. Crediton famously already has one of the highest pollution levels in the country. More cars from the proposed development at Westwood Farm would impact seriously on an already critical pollution problem in the High Street, as again, new residents would be travelling frequently through the town to Exeter and Tesco.

For the above reasons, we feel that building on this site is not viable and that Crediton would be better served by building on the Eastern side of town nearer Exeter; or preferably, that an entire new town should be built by the motorway at Willand once and for all, rather than small and disruptive pockets of building all over the area.

Yours sincerely

Greg and Viv Martin and family

Crediton