

**Sandra Hutchings**

**From:** Marion Widdowson <  
**Sent:** 23 March 2014 00:01  
**To:** DPD  
**Subject:** Planning review for houses on Quicks Farm and Junction 27



Dear Sirs,

I write with concern over the planning proposals for 68 dwellings to be constructed on the Quicks farm site in Willand.

I strongly object to this proposal. I do not feel that Willand can support such a large influx of people on our already overstretched infrastructure. The local Primary School has far too many pupils for its small size. My daughter is in her last year at the School and for the past 2 years half of her class have had to be separated from the older half of the year and placed with the year lower. This has been detrimental to her learning abilities and I already feel very angry that this has had to happen because of a lack of classrooms in the School. Another 68 homes in the Village (at least) would put far too much pressure on the School and the only way it could expand would be onto the playing fields, thus removing a vital amenity for the enjoyment of local people and children who play football etc on it. Although Willand does have a number of green enclosed parks for our children to play in, these are poorly maintained and poorly equipped for our children to play in. Especially our older children who need to play in a safe environment with their friends and not on our estate roads. Other Villages in our vicinity have much better areas for children to play in, better equipped parks for older children to play safely in.

The Village Hall is already under pressure from all the different activities that take place there. Scouts have to meet in 1 small room until the Cubs have finished with the big Hall.

With only 1 pub, 1 chemist, 1 post office –incl. small grocers and 1 food shop, the Village already has far too many people for the amenities it has. The Doctors Surgery is minute and most people have to get in their cars for their day to day tasks putting extra pressure onto our roads and increasing our carbon footprint.

The roads around Willand Moor Road are narrow in places, They were not designed to carry large amounts of traffic. The speed of cars through the village on Silver Street is already an issue as they regularly exceed the 30 mile limit.

Willand has already had over 1200 homes built in the last 10 years with no infrastructure improvement. We cannot sustain anymore homes until improvements have been made.

The development will be outside of the agreed settlement area, taking away a valuable green field which is a very valuable asset to the farmer who grazes his sheep and cows on it. I wonder if when walking around Willand how many fields you could spot with animals grazing. I think it is a lovely asset to our Village to have sheep and cows for children to see the proper countryside and not house after house after house. The field is valuable for our wildlife too. With spotted woodpeckers, bullfinches, sparrows, greenfinches, goldfinches all flying into our gardens from the hedgerows and trees surrounding the fields. I wonder what the effect of 68 houses being built on the field will have on these birds. Also large groups of redwing and fieldfare have been seen feeding on the field in the winter months. Hedgehogs, foxes and the odd deer have been seen in the field. Bats regularly fly across the field and Tawny owls can be heard in the evening in the large Oak Trees bordering the field. We should not be building houses on prime farmland at the edge of our

village when brownfield sites are available elsewhere. We live on the edge of this field and we do suffer during the hot Summer months with large volumes of flies from the farm which is not pleasant when you have to keep your doors shut. How would houses much nearer to the working farm cope with this?

In summary, I would strongly recommend that no houses are built in the village until such time as provision is made for improvement in the infrastructure in relation to the Pre School, Primary School, Doctors Surgery, retail provision and improvements to the Children's play areas around the village.

Yours sincerely,

Marion Widdowson

7 Buttercup Road,

Willand,

Cullompton.

EX15 2TX