



# EYNESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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2 April 2008

Dear Sirs

## **Response to 2<sup>nd</sup> Consultation on East Eynsham Development**

Please find below the response to the latest consultation from the Parish Council –

- **Consultation** – to date it was felt that lip service had been paid to the term consultation – 2 events had taken place neither of which were notified to the village until the week before and both of which were found out about by accident prior to any notification. The Parish Council had then requested information from the developers. In both cases the developers felt it was sufficient to send the Parish Council a poster – with the wrong address on the initial poster to put up in the village. It was felt that a public meeting was required to address all the concerns and enable the village to feel part of the consultation process and ensure that the developers are fully aware of all the issues around the site. The Parish Council had requested a meeting with the developers but to date none had been forthcoming. For a development of this size the consultation has been sadly lacking – successful consultation should help with the final planning application however this half-hearted attempt has aggrieved the village.
- **Conservation area** – the current proposals do not enhance or preserve the character or appearance of the conservation area and there is no evidence to suggest that any work has been carried out to ensure that these requirements are met
- **Risk of Flooding** – there is no evidence to suggest that the risk of flooding on the area has been taken into account – the Environment Agency report on the site should be made available for public consultation. In addition the raising of the properties by 0.5m using topsoil from the plots will simply serve to make the area at increased risk as there will be less land above the floodplain for it to soak into. Has a survey been carried out on the suggested pipe way under the road to take any flood water away? It was felt that without valves and appropriate controls water is more likely to flow from east to west.
- **Density** – the density of properties has now increased which is contrary to the statement in the consultation indicating it had been reduced.
- **Design & Style** – the revised consultation document features 3 storey properties that are totally out of keeping with the surrounding environment. There are also concerns with regard to the quality of the development – it is in a conservation area.

- **Traffic** – there is still concern with regard to the general layout and apparent lack of work that has been carried out after the initial consultation. It is still strongly felt that the exit on to the A4449 should be a left turn only junction in order not to extenuate an already dangerous road. A Traffic assessment must be carried out and its results used to make the proposals safe for the residents and local community.
- **Footpaths** – there is great concern regarding the connectivity to the village. The proposed access to the village on foot or bicycle is down an unlit narrow right of way, which is unsuitable. This will force the new residents on the estate into their cars and increase the traffic congestion in an already congested village. The idea of a footway along the main road for schoolchildren to use is unsafe and unviable. In addition the Parish Council have concern about the possible siting of a path across their playing fields on which there has been no individual consultation.
- **Orchard Close** – the Parish Council understand that there has now been a meeting with some of the residents and the developers following a request from the residents. The current proposals and the new height of the houses make the situation worse for these residents and their views need to be strongly taken into consideration.
- **Landscape Strategy** – this is far too brief and gives very little detail – the views from both in and out of the site need to be considered it seems apparent that the only views that are being considered at present are those in and it must be stressed that the views out are just as important.

In conclusion the Parish Council would like to stress that this second "consultation" indicated that matters raised as concerns at the first had been addressed. Seven items were highlighted at the exhibition with comments suggesting that concerns had been satisfied. In fact, there appears no evidence that any of the matters raised have been properly addressed with bland statements on each point apparently thought to cover the issues involved. This again leads the Parish Council to conclude that little or no attempt is being made to enter in to any meaningful consultation.

As in their last response the Parish Council would recommend a public meeting and/or workshop session with/or without the help of the Parish Council to go over these matters and discuss how effective consultation can be organised.

Yours sincerely

Sue Lee  
Parish Clerk