

Planning Policy  
Chichester District Council  
East Pallant House  
Chichester  
W Sussex  
PO19 1TY



26<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear sir/madam

In response to the revision of the Local Plan including an increase in the building of new homes I would like to draw your attention to reasons why Bethwin's Farm should not be a contender.

I apologise in advance for this information being in list-form; but the significance of what is outlined is the importance not its flowery language.

Primarily this land is arable land. To use it ahead of non-Grade 2 land would be a contradiction of NPPF. As non-Grade 2 land is available the conclusion should be straightforward.

The importance of having a 'strategic gap' has been echoed throughout my existence in Fishbourne. Has this conveniently lost its importance? Fishbourne needs to keep its identity and not become attached to the other villages closeby. Again meeting the criterion of NPPF.

The problem of high water level was something my wife and I researched thoroughly before deciding to live in Fishbourne. A retired gentleman who had worked for the Water Board explained how flooding risks would be exacerbated should the building on Bethwin's Farm go ahead. As this area would suffer from the natural effects of climate and coastal change in time it cannot be seen as the ideal long-term planning land for housing.

The practical, day to day problems of shortage of schooling places, overstretched doctor's lists, traffic jams with unhygienic atmospheres – the list goes on. The latest developments of houses have proven that these problems are realistic. Where are the new road developments to accommodate the hundreds of additional cars/vans? Where do the pupils in the new developments go to school? Not in Fishbourne; the Head of Fishbourne School spoke to me 4 years ago and showed me his demographic figures for 2016-21. There were not enough places for the existing families, let alone hundreds of new families. Where has the new doctor's surgery been built? I do not wish to sound sarcastic, but the population of Fishbourne has seen additional housing being built without any concern for the above problems.

We have a beautiful countryside. Fields that are a necessity if the population is to be fed. A water sewage system that could work efficiently. Wild life that we can enjoy in 20, 40, 60 years time. Decisions of the next 6 months will help or hinder this aspiration.

  
Maurice Young

  
Jane Young