



# LECKHAMPTON

## GREEN LAND

### ACTION GROUP

NEWSLETTER 29 EXTRA

OCTOBER 2007

#### Action needed to save Farm Lane

This news letter asks you once again to act to stop unwanted and unjustified development near Leckhampton (see overleaf). Much to our surprise, the developers (David Wilson Homes) who two years ago lost their case to build 360 houses on the fields just west of Farm Lane have put in an outline planning application to Tewkesbury Council to do just that!

We thought the developers would wait for the outcome of the South West Region examination in public (EIP) to get an impartial and considered ruling on sustainable development for Cheltenham to 2026. Especially, given the circumstances, with the High Court Justice Wyn Williams throwing out this local plan policy, heavily critical of Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC). His verdict was made on the grounds of the overwhelming number of public objections and the failure of TBC to undertake joint planning with CBC.

In our analysis, we see this application as likely to be one last ditch attempt by David Wilson Homes to restore Farm Lane into the Tewkesbury Plan before the EIP ruling expected in December 2007. The *developers* have been monitoring the EIP/RSS situation as keenly as Leglag. After three excellent and detailed Leckhampton presentations you might think the strong resistance to the scheme would have deterred them from pushing forward with this unchanged version. Taking into account the excellent support from our members and other locals in providing over a quarter of objections received for the whole South West Region pleading for some sanity with regards to saving *Old Leckhampton*, you start to understand why the developers - desperately worried that the RSS will stop them in their tracks - are trying to jump the gun.

You may be asking yourself why bother to write again, will Tewkesbury Borough Council listen? Justice Wyn Williams was very critical of TBC's handling of the public objections: *'there was a complete failure to deal with the point'*. Our concern is that in this new round TBC may be able to show a substantial reduction in public objections; by way of explanation the developers will cite a well-founded outline plan backed by a comprehensive new environmental survey. This will undoubtedly be used to support their high court appeal planned for early next year, when public objections will again be a key factor. It is vital that the level of our objections is maintained!

We have been through the documents in this Environmental Survey and find it

flawed on many counts, the complete lack of sustainability and rural setting of the site reported by three previous planning inspectors have not been addressed. In their view, the planned development is clearly unsustainable, isolated and so not seen as an extension to the PUA, and they deplored the complete lack of joint working with Cheltenham Borough Council. In summary this Environmental Survey brings very little in the way of new information and fails to answer previous objections.

Cheltenham Borough Council remained opposed to TBC policy and understandably would like to continue cross party protection of this beautiful area for all Cheltenham residents.

Please object to this plan and put the pressure back on the developers by proving that the number of objectors is remaining high. It does not need to be printed, a short hand written note or an E-mail (referenced with the planning identification 07/00946/OUT and 07/01012/OUT) will make the difference.

You can just write something similar to the tear-off slip at the bottom of this page, adding any specific point you wish to make. If you have nothing you wish to say beyond our suggested text, you can simply fill in your details on the tear-off slip and send that off to Tewkesbury.

The important thing is for lots of people to object, it does not matter if they all object for the same reasons.

Please write to the address below - or you could email [Paul.Skelton@tewkesbury.gov.uk](mailto:Paul.Skelton@tewkesbury.gov.uk)

Time is short - but if you write in time to reach Tewkesbury before November 10th your objection will be counted. **SO write today - before you forget!**

Write to: Mr Paul Skelton , Tewkesbury Borough Council, Gloucester Road, Tewkesbury GL20 5TT

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To: Mr. Paul Skelton, Tewkesbury Borough Council,  
Gloucester Rd, Tewkesbury GL20 5TT

My name_____	<b>Planning idents 07/00946/OUT and 07/01202/OUT</b>
My address_____	I wish my to record my objection to the above
_____	proposals to build dwellings on land adjoining Farm
_____	Lane in Leckhampton. My objection is on the grounds
Postcode_____	argued by Leglag in their official response. I am
_____	concerned about the effect of such building on the
	local environment and amenities and traffic
	<u>implications.</u>

Signature

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