15/04/2012 15:26
Jennifer Sharpe

Dear Mr. Carvey,
We have had a circular from The Ridings Action Group which advises us to send any comments about the Ridgewood Farm Development to you.
When we first moved to Uckfield in 1978 it was a quiet little town and a pleasant place to live. Now it has become an overcrowded sprawling metropolis resulting in far too many people with far too many cars. The doctors are full as are the dentists and schools. There is usually nowhere to park in the public car parks also Tesco and Waitrose car parks. There is not enough water and we have the delights of a hosepipe ban all summer. The railway is inadequate with often no trains for the complete journey to London. There is no railway to Lewes and the South. There is no adequate car park for the station. The fire engine finds it difficult to exit from its own fire station. The roundabout at Tesco is nearly always jammed up as if you were in London. All emergency services have difficulty in getting through the traffic. Many people are unemployed in the area as there are not enough jobs. The numbers of birds and other wildlife are diminishing due to the loss of their habitats. The water table is going down, down, down which means that there is a degree of subsidence in buildings where the clay soil is cracking and eroding. Our previous house and neighbour's house being 2 of them. The quality of the air is diminishing and when you stand waiting to cross the road in town you are bombarded with car fumes. Any more building will result in overloaded sewage farms.
Uckfield is no longer a pleasant place to live and we tried hard last year to move out BUT no-one wanted to buy our 4 bed house as there were too many of them on the market including new ones. Now there are even more new ones and even more are in the pipeline including this new Ridgewood Farm proposed development. When will it all stop??? The Government has got it wrong when it says we need more houses in this area. Does any one from the government actually try to live in Uckfield?
As far as we are concerned we don't want any more houses in Uckfield or the immediate environs. There are far too many people here now. There have been several public consultations about trying to improve the traffic flow in the town. Is anything good actually going to happen? We need more car parks. The Meads surgery is soon to be rebuilt on West Park with yet another roundabout on the slip road to the by-pass. Will this new surgery have an adequate car park?? The other day we had to attend Uckfield hospital as an emergency after a nasty fall with a head injury but there was nowhere to park the car in the hospital car park as it now houses a doctor's surgery as well as holding outpatients clinics. With more houses here this problem will obviously get much worse.
We hope our concerns will be taken into consideration and that common sense will prevail.
Regards from
Mr. and Mrs. Sharpe
Ridgewood.