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Chris Johnson

On the evening of Monday 11th April '12 I received a leaflet through my letterbox regarding the Ridgewood Farm development. I have only recently moved to this area and have not previously heard about this scheme. After looking at the Ridings Action Group website I am amased that anyone could propose such a development in Uckfield and think it a good idea, except, I believe, those who would get some sort of financial gain from it.
I would just like to go through some of the obvious 'cons'. I cant think of any 'pros'.

The existing traffic situation in Uckfield is already causing concern enough for the council to propose traffic relief schemes. Another thousand plus cars can only improve this?

The Bird in Eye surgery is virtually at patient capacity. Try getting an appointment on the day.

How can South East Water claim to be able to supply another thousand households when there is a hose pipe ban on and we have been declared a drought area and its not yet summer?

The local job market is already sparse enough, although it can be presumed that some of the intended residents will already have employment.

An increase in local population is not necessarily good for local business. Look at East Grinstead. It could be compared to one large, sprawling housing development but high street shops are closing 'hand over fist' and there are several empty office buildings that have been vacant for at least a couple of years. Hailsham high street also has many closed shops. Do we want Uckfield to go the same way?

There are probably more reasons against this idea, but these are the ones that imeadiately spring to my secondary school educated mind. I do hope that the council will see common sense and prevent this insanity from occurring. After reading the R.A.G. site its hard to tell which direction they are facing. Why not build a wind farm instead?

Brian Johnson.