LDF

From: Rosalind Miller [redacted]
Sent: 16 March 2015 15:18
To: LDF
Subject: RPSADLPC - Heathfield

Categories: Consultation Response

[redacted]

Wealden District Council

Planning Policy

Council Offices

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16th March 2015

Dear Sirs

Re: Revised Proposed Submission Affordable Delivery Local Plan Consultation – Heathfield

As a resident of the area directly affected by the afore mentioned consultation (RPSADLPC), I would like to take this opportunity to make a few observations.

Although affordable housing is an important and valuable issue in any community, it does require certain considerations as to its placement. A suitable infrastructure to support its particular needs is an immediate requirement. I feel that the area in question does not have these relevant resources. There is no railway link in Heathfield and the buses are few and far between; none of which are available on the A267 itself.

This lack of public transport would mean that residents would be dependant on cars, thus increasing the traffic in this already congested area and on a road system that is below par in its functionality. For instance, although we live on an A rated road, when two trucks pass one another at specific points along the road, one has to stop to allow the other to go past, as the present layout is too narrow to accommodate both at the same time.

There have been numerous accidents and fatalities on this road alone. Further development is this are would require substantial alterations to the highways infrastructure in the surrounding area to render it viable, on this point alone.

On another issue, these properties allocated for consideration back onto an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). With their mature gardens, wildlife are free to spread into these areas and allows a buffer zone between the AONB and the more urbanised areas of Heathfield and Cross-in-Hand. We ourselves have a plentiful ecosystem, which include such rare delights as stock doves and slow worms. This area has been designated to protect such creatures, another infringement or the whittling away of such treasures is surely detrimental to the whole and once gone irreplaceable.

Finally, I would like to point out the existence of under ground springs in the area, that come to the surface in times of excessive rain. Although difficult to access from the surface as to how many there are it is true to say that although we have several mature trees, they never show any signs of distress in times of drought, as there appears to be a plentiful supply of water in their vicinity.

I would be most grateful if you would put my comments on record that in my opinion this is an inappropriate area for such development. I would also be much obliged if you would acknowledge the receipt of this correspondence.

Yours faithfully

R M M MiIler (Miss)