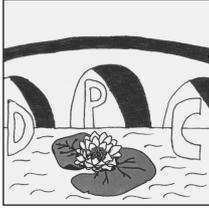


DOGMERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



I am writing to provide the views of the Dogmersfield Parish Council on the proposal for a new village at Rye Common. This potential major development of 1600 to 1900 new houses would be located near to the A287 opposite the junction with Chalky Lane and therefore just beyond the Dogmersfield Parish boundary.

In response to the recent Refined Options consultation the Dogmersfield Parish Council expressed its concerns about the proposed new settlement at Winchfield and concluded that of the options put forward it was the most damaging for our Parish.

The urbanisation of the countryside due to a new settlement in Rye Common would have the same significant and widespread adverse implications for all Dogmersfield residents. The current largely rural environment of the area will be lost for ever due to the increases in noise and light pollution, traffic, loss of wildlife.

The only potential offset from a new settlement is the possibility of infrastructure improvements which could reduce local traffic flows and improve access to schools, social and health care facilities. However, in these respects the Rye Common proposal adds little to local services to offset the increased demand it will create.

The most significant adverse implication for the Dogmersfield Parish will be to traffic flows along Chalky Lane. The potential road junctions for the new settlement that are being considered will all affect the use of Chalky Lane with the possible creation of a roundabout at the Chalky Lane junction being the most significant. Although this may offer some benefit to our residents it will open up Chalky Lane/Church Lane as a major through route from the A287 and particularly from the proposed new settlement to schools, stations, supermarkets and junction 4A on the M3.

For these reasons the Parish Council will not support development in the countryside and particularly a new settlement at Rye Common until it can be shown that all the available brown field sites in Hart have been fully utilised.

Geoff Beaven
Chairman of Parish Council

Claire Inglis
Clerk to Parish Council