

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 August 2018 21:42
To: pmods22
Subject: Objection to the movement of the Clitheroe settlement boundary

Sirs

I am writing to register my objection to the increase in the Clitheroe Settlement Boundary and an increase in the number of proposed new dwelling to be built in the town between now and 2028. I see a wide range of reasons why this would be inappropriate and to the detriment of the current residents of the town, further the need for this change seems tenuous at best.

Firstly - the reasons why I would question the need to increase the number of proposed new dwellings via an increase in area of the settlement boundary

1. According to the minutes of the planning meetings the primary given reason is an increase in the buffer amount of housing supply to allow for building applications not reaching completion within the five year timescale. According to the minutes without any change to the settlement boundary we have a 5% buffer. There was no evidence detailed for the need to increase this buffer from 5% to 20%. To change the buffer by 400% without supporting evidence is not necessary. What evidence is there that the 5% buffer is not sufficient?
2. The person proposing that the new housing increase be achieved by movement of the settlement boundary, a Mr William Honeywell surely has a conflict of interest in making such a proposal. As a governor of the Grammar School this is in the financial interest of the school he represents and additionally and more seriously, as a Director of Honeywell Estate Agents he stands to gain personally, financially from an increased housing stock in the town.
3. An increase in housing could only be justified if a comparable increase in local employment opportunities were present to provide a livelihood for this additional population. Currently around 3000 houses are to be added to the town, thus bringing an an additional ca. 4500 people of working age into the town. I see no evidence of an increase in employment in the town on this scale. And if the argument is that there is additional employment in the surrounding area, surely on environmental and infrastructure grounds that new housing should be local to the new employment.

Secondly - the infrastructure of the town is not sufficient to sustain the additional proposed population.

1. Already all of the primary schools in the town are oversubscribed and no house builder has been required to build a new school to support the increase in child population being imported into the town. Where will all the new children go to school?
2. No proposals to improve the road infrastructure of the town have been proposed to handle the ca. 40% relative increase in population - this is short sighted in itself and an increase in housing above the 40% will reduce the quality of life of the current residents of the town still further.

3. Already it takes about 6 weeks to get a non-urgent GP's appointment in the town, a greater population would make this poor situation still worse.

4. The proposal of site 13 greatly reduces the amenity value of the people living on the Highmoor Park estate. Views to open countryside would be lost, the wooded area to the North of the plot, so beloved by the children (including my own) of the area would also be lost along.

5. Walking is important for the health of the population and exercise is encouraged by the government. The fields of Higher Standen farm are currently unavailable to walkers as the footpath is closed so many of the people who used to walk there are now walking on Highmoor Farm fiends instead. If these footpaths are also lost to housing development then the pleasure and exercise of walking in the countryside will be lost to many of Clitheroe's residents. This will potentially have an adverse impact on our physical and mental health.

I would request that detailed answers, in plain English, be provided to answer each of the above objections to myself in writing. Additionally I would request that each point is given due time for discussion in the next planning committee meeting. Please send me details of the date for such.

Regards

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the letter.