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VILLAGES PLAN CONSULTATION – WOODBURY SALTERTON

I am dismayed to see that EDDC have proposed an amendment to policies VP04 and VP05 of the East Devon Villages Plan relating to Greendale Business Park and Hill Barton Business Park.

The Plan has gone through two public consultations, Planning Inspectors Hearings, and has been discussed at numerous committee meetings. There can be no justification for changes at this late stage. Policies VPO4 and VPO5 should be included in their entirety, with the final sentence included.

There are important issues at stake here. Greendale have a record of circumventing planning regulations, especially by using retrospective applications. This undermines the credibility of the planning system and generates public disillusionment with the democratic process generally. The District Council must be seen to uphold planning regulations and to police them consistently.

The Greendale development has already exceeded a scale of operation that is incompatible with the size of the village of which it is a part. I have lived in the village for 17 and have witnessed a huge increase in the Greendale operation. The road infrastructure is inadequate for the considerable extra traffic that the development has generated. In particular, the trucks and tractors that service the bio-digester are wholly unsuited to the narrow roads. In addition to the considerable risk to residents who attempt to walk in the village, the roads are turned into a mud bath for much of the winter. There is constant nuisance from noise and dust, the latter carrying as yet unassessed health risks. It is time to have effective measures in place that protect the interests of the village as a whole.

Dr. Patrick Dillon

