

[REDACTED]

From: Mike Booth [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 January 2023 16:40
To: Planning Policy
Subject: Local Plan ... comments

Categories: Reg.18 consultation

Dear Sir,

We've lived in Chardstock for over 20 years and are well acquainted with both its history and its difficulties.

When we moved here back in 2001 there was a regular, several times a day, bus service and both a viable and thriving pub scene in the village.

There was a local shop/store and an active community centred around the church, the school and the community hall.

Over those 20 years the bus service was cut and cut until it no longer exists. There is now no provision of public transport within the village and the nearest, infrequent, bus service is at least a mile's walk along an unlit, largely single track road with no pavement.

The school, small but sufficient, was replaced with a larger 'modern' school that has its intake from outside the village and is, in fact, amalgamated with another school in Lyme Regis.

The pub has effectively closed with the absent landlords indifferent to the needs of the village, instead preferring to keep the site closed for its speculative value (no doubt increased by the ideas proposed by the draft local plan).

The village store has now passed into the hands of the local community.

The infrastructure of the village has hardly changed over that period.

Many properties still do not have access to mains gas having to rely on expensive and environmentally costly fuels. The roads are still the same, barely adequate for the village itself and not supportive of the Sat-Nav created rat-run from Axminster to Taunton via Yarcombe that it has become.

We have no local facilities for health and social care and no means other than private transport via car of accessing them.

The last thing that we need in this village is yet more speculative development that is generated by greed and not by need.

I can not state too strongly my objection to the allocation of further housing development within the draft local plan which would create yet more demand for non-existent services.

Yours sincerely,

Michael J Booth

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