

**From:** christopher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 January 2023 15:13  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** East Devon Local Plan query

**Categories:** Reg.18 consultation

I live in Slewton Crescent Whimble and I bought this house 19 years ago.

At the rear of the property is the old Richard Whiteway cricket field.

I was told by my solicitor that planning permission had been refused for house building on the old cricket field so I proceeded with the purchase knowing that we had a green and pleasant outlook to the rear.

At the time I believe the field belonged to the drinks company that took over the Whiteways Cyder factory. Several years later I was told that a local landowner had bought the field with the intention of selling it to developers for house building.

This caused upset and concern to many local people and subsequently I believe planning for house building was again refused so we all felt that the field was safe from development.

Now it has become a subject for house building for a third time. Needless to say this is yet again causing upset and concern for not only those who would be directly affected but to a wider number of local residents who fear for the loss of another green field.

Part of the field is on a flood plain and the field as a whole acts as an area that holds rainwater during the increasingly heavy rain that occurs. As the houses in Slewton Crescent are lower than the field it could cause us flooding problems if houses and roadways are built. There has already been serious flooding at the Green in Whimble which is lower down the watercourse and house building could undoubtedly make matters worse.

The field is a hay meadow which is something that is sadly disappearing from the English landscape.

There is a lot of wildlife in the field. Owls, Woodpeckers, Voles, Field Mice and it is the habitat for numerous other forms of wildlife and plant life.

Building of 33 house has been mentioned. That would probably mean at least 66 extra cars making numerous journeys through the village that quite simply does not have the infrastructure to cater for such an increase in volumes of traffic. The increase in the volume of traffic would cause more exhaust pollution.

The village surgery and school could not accommodate a large increase in numbers and neither could the existing water and sewage facilities.

There are few pavements in Whimble and people walking to the main road to catch a bus are always at risk of serious injury or worse. A vast increase in the population would further increase the risk.

The field is also flanked by a mixture of mature trees. During hours of darkness the field area becomes a small dark sky zone. House building would destroy that.

I have taken lots of photographs of the field in all the seasons and I have enclosed one to illustrate what would be lost if house building was to happen.

I am elderly and the loss of the field would make me not want to live here anymore.

The prospect of moving at my age fills me with dread.

In conclusion I have to say that house building on the old Richard Whiteway cricket field must not be allowed.

Sent from my



