

EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL – LOCAL PLAN 2020-2040 CONSULTATION
EDDC – WHIMPLE PARISH

References:

- A. Whimble Parish Council letter dated 30 May 2015.
- B. Whimble Parish Council letter dated 19/6/2015.
- C. EDDC NB/FT/C5 dated 22 April 1992.
- D. EDDC THB/JH/L6/12 dated 4 June 1993.
- E. EDDC DJP/AS dated 10 September 1999.
- F. EDDC Open Spaces Study Review 2014.
- G. DCC AJM.P(E)07/48/00741/95 dated 19 June 1995.

The Planning Map for the Consultation shows the Richard Whiteway Memorial Ground (Old Cricket Field) as the 'Preferred Site' for development- Ref - LP_Whim_11. It is assumed this has been brought forward from the now defunct EDDC Villages Plan (2013/14).

Whimble Parish Council (WPC) withdrew the nomination of the RWMG (LP_Whim_11) in 2015 due to both local opposition and views expressed in the Whimble Parish Plan which remain extant as per References A and B. The detail in References A and B will be carried forward into the Whimble Neighbourhood Plan and should therefore be reflected in the EDDC Local Plan.

In 2015 WPC nominated land on Church Road, shown as LP_Whim_18, as the '**preferred site**' for development. This site gives access to the main main routes, London Road (old A30) and the A30 at Daisymount. This site would negate additional residential traffic having to negotiate the narrow roads through the centre of the village.

Any further development in Whimble should bring benefit to the village not just the loss of more greenfields and not simply exacerbate current traffic and flooding issues. There is an aspiration to for a Foot-Cycle Path from the village to Hand & Pen being part of any new development providing a major benefit to the village. The Foot-Cycle Path would provide safe passage to London Road; access to the post Cranbrook development improved local bus services and the National Cycle route (Exeter to Honiton). Furthermore, development of the Church Road site would also allow scope for the road to be widened at Pithayes Farm and remove a current traffic pinch point.

To summarise, the RWMG (LP_Whim_11) should not be under consideration for development because:

1. The site is designated as Land of Local Landscape Importance – Reference C and further confirmed in Reference D and E.
2. The RWMG has historical value to the village.
3. Whimble Parish Council withdrew its nomination of the RWMG as its 'Preferred Site' in 2015.
4. The RWMG sits outside of the Whimble Built Up Area Boundary.
5. Whimble currently has insufficient Open Spaces within the BUAB and the RWMG is one of the few sites that meets the Open Space criteria.
6. It should be noted the site was considered unsuitable for development in 1995 due to traffic and environmental issues – Reference G refers.

In light of the above EDDC should remove the RWMG site from the EDDC SLHAA (possible development sites). EDDC are requested to include the information in this letter in ongoing work with the East Devon Local Plan Consultation work.

Enclosures: References A-G

CAWalker



9 January 2023