

[REDACTED]

From: Judith Walker [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 December 2022 09:06
To: Planning Policy
Subject: EDDC Local Plan to 2040

Categories: Reg.18 consultation

Dear Planning Policy Lead,

Upottery is not unsustainable!

Until January 15th 2023, EDDC are consulting East Devon council tax payers on a draft of the Local Plan for East Devon up until 2040. For the plan, you have categorised all settlements as sustainable or unsustainable without consulting the people who live in them.

You have decided that the parish and village of Upottery is ‘unsustainable’ and that no new development will be allowed here for the next 18 years. This is unacceptable and as a resident I object to this categorisation of the where I live, by people who do not know my community. I can assure you Upottery is sustainable. We sustain it and we need similar growth to that of the last 20 years!

You identified a development site (Upon-01) in the village in 2017, capable of accommodating up to 20 new homes up to 2040 but your plan now says it will not be built. Rather than allowing such limited development in “unsustainable” villages like Upottery you seem determined to build another new town.

All communities need to grow and provide new homes for young people, otherwise they will stagnate or decline. If your Local Plan goes ahead without change that is what you will be condemning Upottery to. The residents of Upottery protest that this must not be allowed to happen.

A modest growth in our population is essential if our school, pub, church and village hall are to thrive. Our pub continues to sell daily food essentials, started during the pandemic, but it seems the lack of a stand alone shop is the sole reason you wish to condemn us as “unsustainable”, even though there is a very successful community shop in the neighbouring Somerset village of Churchinford. In addition, the majority of people in Upottery have access to ultrafast, full fibre broadband via which they can order deliveries from all the major supermarkets direct to their doors.

Do not condemn Upottery as an ‘unsustainable’ settlement! Do not condemn us to stagnation and decline! Allow us to grow and thriveWe live here, not you.

Sincerely,

Mrs Judith Walker & Mr Peter Walker
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