

Councillor A.P. McArthur

30th May 2015.

Attn of Miss Claire Rodway,
Senior Planning Officer
EDDC Property Services.

Dear Miss Rodway,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Vice Chairman of Whimple Parish Council.

On reading the latest EDDC Open Space Review (April 2014) the review has highlighted the fact that Whimple does not have sufficient Open Spaces and this will be a key objective in the proposed Neighbourhood Plan which will supersede the old "Parish plan".

One of the sites nominated by the Parish council as an "Open Space" site is the old cricket ground in the middle of the village. This site has come to notice in the past as a potential building site to satisfy your needs to provide houses within the village. I have to tell you that local opinion and support for such a development does not reflect the wishes or aspirations of our Parishioners.

In our "Neighbourhood Plan" the Parish Council will be supporting a further planning application for the building of houses at Church Road, (Previous Planning application 12/0455/FUL) which the EDDC councillors refused at a previous planning hearing. This site which is at the Hand & Pen end of Church Road would provide not only the required number of houses for the village but a safe footpath/bridleway/cycle path for pedestrians/horse riders /cyclist's along the dangerous main road out of Whimple.

With this new development there would be less traffic accessing the village which all parishioners would be grateful for. It is to be noted that houses have been built in the past on the western side of Church Road and indeed we as a Parish Council are constantly hearing about attempts by builders to develop our "Green wedge" between us and Cranbrook, which is not far away from this proposed site.

I have been asked by the owners of the land at Church Road if the Parish Council has any stomach, after being rejected before, for a new planning application to be submitted. I have to inform you that we wholeheartedly support a further application and will not in future be nominating any other "building plots" in the village for expansion.

Yours Sincerely
Alan McArthur, Vice Chairman,
Whimple Parish Council.