

## **INTRODUCTION**

Bell Cornwell acts as planning consultant for Mr. and Mrs. Feast, the owners of Hill Pond Camping and Caravan Park, to the north of the A3052 and immediately to the west of Hill Barton Business Park, in the West End of the district. Our clients' land falls within the draft boundary of the proposed new community for East Devon and, in this regard, we are actively participating in the new settlement masterplan stakeholder engagement process.

Against this background, the following representations are made to the East Devon Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation Draft.

## **CHAPTER 9. SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY AND TOWN CENTRES**

### **Policy SE10: Sustainable Tourism**

Mr. and Mrs. Feast are supportive of the first paragraph of Policy SE10, which supports the provision of visitor accommodation, facilities and attractions within settlement boundaries. This is crucial when tourism is vital to East Devon's economy.

Our clients OBJECT, however, to the remainder of Policy SE10 as drafted currently and consider that it is unsound. The supporting text to the policy notes that tourism is vital to East Devon and seeks to encourage green tourism schemes. However, the policy is highly complex and places a wide range of restrictions on the form and location of schemes that can be brought forward. Given the overly restrictive nature of the policy, we consider that it has not been positively prepared and will not be effective in achieving the Council's stated ambition of supporting tourism and of increasing opportunities for green tourism. Suitable development that contributes to sustainable tourism growth must not be curtailed.