

M43 - Kirsty Button

From: Kirsty Button [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 September 2017 15:06
To: LocalPlan
Subject: Comments on Telford & Wrekin Local Plan

To Whom it may concern,

As a resident of Edgmond I am continually aggrieved by the actions of developers who seek to destroy the rural aspect of our beautiful village. I understand and agree that at a country level we need to build new homes to accommodate our growing population, however this must not be done at the detriment of established rural towns and villages. A large percentage of Edgmond is within a conservation area, giving our village its unique and special character. Edgmond parish is special because we have open green spaces, clear boundaries between Newport and Harper Adams University, meadows and fields with grazing animals, historic buildings and beautiful architecture. All of these attributes require the surrounding area to maintain its rural and undeveloped setting, in order to keep historical integrity.

Therefore definitive wording is needed in the Local Plan to ensure Edgmond parish NEVER has housing estates built within it. Small, one or two property infill building within the village and parish would allow our area to maintain its rural characteristic, whilst contributing to the regions housing stock at a level appropriate for a small, historical and rural parish.

Any vagueness which currently exists within the Local Plan allows developers to exploit loopholes and very quickly Edgmond could become a built up, homogenous place, with its historical significance destroyed by modern housing, more traffic and increased demands on infrastructure. It is imperative that the Local Plan protects Edgmond parish from such developments.

Pressure from Government housing targets is forcing development plans to be approved and villages such as Edgmond will be irrevocably changed. We must not destroy what makes Britain great.

Telford is a new town and has many areas suitable for building. Nearby Newport has also seen ridiculously high levels of development, with more approved plans to go ahead. Plus we have brownfield sites such as Crudginton and Allscot, where developers should be instructed to build. Why completely ruin Edgmond, when prime building plots are available nearby? The Local Plan must address this issue.

I don't think it's unreasonable to identify villages within the Local Plan where developers are prohibited from mass scale building. With this definitive list, we would no longer have to fear destructive development, knowing the future of our historic village is secure.

I would also like the Local Plan to clearly state that Harper Adams University must respect the rural setting of Edgmond and Edgmond Marsh. With any new building being restricted to north of Shrewsbury Road, in order to keep a clear boundary between the University and village. Currently the Local Plan states that it supports 'appropriate development' by Harper Adams. This is far too vague. What does this mean? Detail needs to be given as to the acceptable level of University buildings, Edgmond village boundary and precise detail on density and positioning of future development, so that it does not negatively impact Edgmond. Boundaries need to be maintained in order to safeguard Edgmond's historical and rural aesthetic.

Please take note that the Local Plan should not be left open to interpretation, as this is when developers will find legal loopholes which make declining planning applications almost impossible. I do not want to be part of a generation that destroyed Shropshire through disastrous developments.

Yours faithfully
Kirsty Button