

THE Elswickian

NEWSLETTER OF ELSWICK PARISH COUNCIL November 2015

Housing Threat Latest

Thank you to everyone who attended the Fylde Borough Council and Story Homes road shows and the public meeting held on Monday 2nd November. At the public meeting it was agreed that the parish council would circulate details as to how to appeal against the various proposals which are affecting our village. We hope that you will find this leaflet useful and would urge you to ensure that your representations are submitted prior to the deadline of 3rd December 2016. Fylde claim to have received very few letters from Elswick so please take the trouble to write.

Background

The village is facing a massive expansion and population explosion on several fronts. Fylde Borough Council is recommending in its emerging Local Plan that 140 new homes should be built in Elswick over the next few years and Story homes and other developers are gearing up to submit planning applications which could add hundreds of additional houses to this figure. Virtually no green field site in Elswick is safe. Fylde Borough has written to all the land owners of fields surrounding the village and virtually all have said that they wish their fields to be developed. Whilst Fylde Borough will be able to control development once its Local Plan is approved this will not be until at least 2017. In the meantime developers will be able to submit plans for any of the fields around Elswick and Fylde Borough will have difficulty in refusing them as the government has decreed that there should be a presumption in favour of development where Councils like Fylde do not have a Local Plan or a five year supply of housing. Already planning applications in Wrea Green and Warton have been approved for more houses than Fylde planned for these villages. If we are to stop development in Elswick overriding reasons such as environmental or highways issues must be emphasised in our objections.

Elswick Parish Council is committed to fighting large scale developments in the village and opposing Fylde Borough Council's plan for 140 houses. If we are to succeed however we need your help.

Story homes development

We understand that a planning application has not as yet been submitted for the proposed development on Mill Lane but that an application is imminent. When an application is lodged Fylde Borough Council will consult with a number of bodies including County Highways who will have a major say as to whether the application is approved. It is important therefore that you write now advising County Highways of the problems at the Mill Lane/ Lodge Lane junction.

This junction is already dangerous and is not suited to the amount of traffic which will be generated with the proposed housing development which Story Homes aim to build in Mill Lane. It is estimated that the 100 houses that are planned will bring 150 extra cars to the village and generate approximately 1000 vehicle movements at this hidden junction. Please submit your concerns to Neil Stevens. Strategic Highways Planning Manager, County Highways, Lancashire County Council, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD or neil.stevens@lancashire.gov.uk