

## Fylde Borough Council Emerging Local Plan Consultation

The consultation period for the emerging Fylde Borough Council Local Plan ends at 5pm on Thursday 3rd December so if you do not want to see Elswick grow by more than a third with at least 140 new houses now is the time to act. Your views should be forwarded to Fylde Borough Council

If we wish to influence the document we must therefore act now by writing to the Chief Planning Officer at the Town Hall, St Annes FY8 1LW listing your objections. The following are some suggestions:-

- Development in Elswick is not sustainable. The village is one of the remotest villages in Fylde - it has no school, no health centre and is six miles from the nearest supermarket.
- The village only has an hourly bus service with no buses after 7pm or on Sundays. The County Council has announced that it will be withdrawing all bus subsidies in March leaving Elswick with no public transport. The nearest being in Kirkham or Poulton six miles away.
- 140 houses for Elswick is disproportionate to the proposed development in the rest of Fylde or other villages. 140 houses represents a 30% increase in the village whereas the rate of development for the Borough is less than half this figure.
- Proposed percentage allocations for much larger villages such as Staining and Newton are similar or less than Elswick. Both villages are twice the size of Elswick but their respective allocations are only 141 and 115 respectively. Wrea Green is one and a half the size of Elswick but has only been allocated 157 houses.
- All these large villages are more sustainable than Elswick as they lie on the edge of urban connotations and have considerably better access to facilities than Elswick. People in Elswick have to travel six miles to Poulton or Kirkham or eight miles to Garstang for similar facilities.
- Elswick is a similar size to Singleton and Clifton villages which have only been allocated 15 (Singleton) and 50 (Clifton) houses.
- The Health Centre at Great Eccleston (1.5 miles away) is full with waiting times of 2 to 3 weeks to see a doctor. Attempts to relocate and extend the centre have failed due to lack of available land.
- Little or no consideration has been given to the fact that Elswick depends for most of its services on Wyre
- Two cars are a necessity for every household in Elswick. A recent Parish plan survey recorded that there is an average of 1.5 cars per household in the village.
- Large housing developments are required to have an element of affordable housing. It is impossible to see how this could be viable in Elswick with the village's lack of public transport and the need for households to have more than one car.
- 140 households would require at least 200 cars and 4 to 5 hundred extra car journeys per day most of which would have to cross or join the A585 at Thistleton junction. This would increase waiting times and exacerbate the risks at this already dangerous junction.
- There is no dial a car or dial a bus scheme in Elswick or surrounding villages.
- Large housing estates around the village would destroy the character of a typical Fylde village.

- There is little demand for property in Elswick . There are currently xxxxx properties for sale in the village and the new housing estate in the High St has only sold 5 houses despite being on sale for over 6 months.
- There is no industry or employment close to the village. Most people are employed in Blackpool ten miles away.

**PLEASE HELP TO SAVE OUR VILLAGE – DON'T DELAY WRITE TODAY**