
From: Tina Sivyer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 24 February 2015 20:47
To: Planning Policy
Subject: proposed new town in West Tey

[REDACTED]

I write as part of the “have your say” initiative, whereby views are being sought about the proposed massive expansion of housing in this area. I live in Coggeshall (since 2001) and commute to London. I also drive regularly along the A120 as my children are at school in Colchester.

I commute in rush hour from Kelvedon station, and the trains are at and over capacity. Sometimes there is a seat, but as soon as one train is delayed overcrowding quickly results because of the huge number of commuters that the system has to process. Frequently there is a train in short formation, 8 carriages rather than 12, and on those days we are jammed in like sardines or can't get on at all. The proposed development at Marks Tey would result in thousands more commuters and exacerbate this problem. The station car park is full to capacity already.

I hear all the good things that are said about this not being a dormitory town, and the people who will live there working locally. This is a wholly unrealistic view. Very few local jobs pay enough to enable anyone to run a family and fund a mortgage. The majority of homeowners round here commute to London and the proposed new town will be no different in that respect. Further, your own consultation has already found that the job market in the area is struggling to keep pace with the expansion in the housing estates around Colchester. And yet another 30,000 households are proposed.

We regularly make the decision not to try to go anywhere which involves driving along the A120 towards Marks Tey, if this can be helped, because traffic is often backed up at least as far as Coggeshall from the Marks Tey roundabout; and it is nearly always backed up as far as Great Tey. Your proposed housing development will bring a huge number of extra cars to an already overcrowded road network, and yet I understand there is no plan to upgrade this.

There is also the matter of the endless soul destroying destruction of the countryside. Once it is gone, it will never reappear and that is such a shame. This area is currently semi rural, which is one of its great attractions; but it feels to many of us that the developers won't be happy until there is not a bit of green space left between Colchester and Chelmsford. Just look at the expansion of Colchester in the last 10 years, and the creation of the huge housing estates in Notley and around. Is there a plan to continue until we are entirely concreted over?

Thank you for letting me have my say. I say, please, please, don't do this.

Yours sincerely

Tina Sivyer