

I speak as Mayor of Wivenhoe representing Wivenhoe Town Council and Wivenhoe residents.

The Wivenhoe Neighbourhood Plan was approved in a Referendum held on 2 May 2019 with 2,771 Votes FOR and just 342 votes AGAINST. The Plan was then made part of CBC's local development plan, and as such became a statutory instrument.

We have been willing to work with Taylor Wimpy to deliver homes on this site but right from their initial presentation they have been unwilling to take on board our comments. In particular, that the spread north of the pylon of development was not ~~acceptable to us, nor~~ ~~was it~~ policy compliant.

It is important, crucial, that the Neighbourhood Plan is defended as it represents the majority view of the people of Wivenhoe, whilst also recognising that new homes are needed.

Taylor Wimpey's proposal deviated from the Neighbourhood Plan in a number of ways, the main ones being;

- ~~No~~ one bedroom properties were included. The Plan specifically identifies the need for these from older residents wanting to downsize (thus freeing up bigger houses) and for those just starting on the housing ladder.
- A significant part of the development was outside of the settlement boundary in the Plan – ie the area identified for housing, to protect the countryside and views.
- ~~A number of transport issues were raised, including:~~
  - o planned cycle routes that lacked connectivity (and also breached police guidance)
  - o no vehicular access to the recreation area or parking provision.

The Neighbour Plan required significant investment of both time and money. This investment continues with WTC currently spending considerable time updating the Plan. Why are we doing this if the Plan can be ignored? It is absurd to put the effort into this framework only for the Plan to be set aside? And this applies not just to Wivenhoe's