

Langham Parish Council Interim Press Release

Tues 11th Feb 2025

Death of a Village?

Langham residents have reacted with shock and disbelief after the new draft Local Plan proposals published by Colchester City Council show that they are planning on building 900 new homes in the centre of the village.

Langham Parish Council Chairman Paul Armstrong said:

“This volume of new homes will totally destroy the open heart of our rural village, rebuilding it as a densely populated urban settlement”.

Given that this has come totally out of the blue, it would appear to be an ill-thought out panic response to the loss of Middlewick from the emerging Local Plan. What is undeniable is that this huge proposed housing allocation is totally at odds with many of CCC’s own carefully developed Strategic Themes and Local Plan Policy objectives.

Langham Parish Council will be providing residents with an initial briefing at a regular Parish Council Meeting on Wed 12th February. We feel sure that there will be a strong local appetite to vigorously resist these ill-conceived plans.

Councillor Armstrong concluded:

“We do understand that there are very strong time pressures within the Local Plan development timetable, but that is not an acceptable justification for adopting a half-baked and non-compliant Regulation 18 Plan. CCC should pause briefly instead, to properly assess whether or not there might be a more sustainable and policy compliant solution to their undoubted Local Plan housebuilding challenge.”

Contact points for follow up:

Paul Armstrong (Chairman)

p.armstrong@langhamparishcouncil.co.uk

07766 747497

01206 616604

Carol Harbach (Clerk)

clerk@langhamparishcouncil.co.uk

07837 714615