

(Paul Armstrong here, Langham Parish Council Chairman)

Allistair's already spoken about the total unsuitability of Langham for 900 new homes. 300 Langham residents have already emailed us their concerns over the last 4 and a half days.

I share those concerns, but here I want to focus on the procedural aspects of the current **difficult** situation.

Middlewick has **just been dropped** from the Local Plan.....I congratulate "Save the Wick" for their hard-won success. It does however leave the City Council with a very sizeable **hole** in their Plan..... roughly Langham sized, or so it would appear!

When you ditch **nearly 10%** of all the homes in your draft plan, it seems right to me that you should undertake a **full** re-evaluation of **all** potential sites before coming up with a fresh plan..... **has this happened?**

I've got four **very simple** questions for the Committee, so I really hope that you can answer them here tonight.....but if not, please can you answer them in writing to Langham Parish Council as soon as possible after tonight's meeting?

Firstly, how many sites have received supplementary housing allocations as a result of removing Middlewick from the plan?

*Secondly, how many houses were proposed for Langham **prior** to removing Middlewick from the plan?*

*Thirdly, **did** Officers undertake a full re-evaluation of **all** sites (from the Call for Sites and Desktop Study), **before** publishing the new plan without Middlewick?*

*And finally: during the re-evaluation of Langham, **what updates were there** to the Evidence Base or the Sustainability Appraisal, which supported an increase to the housing allocation?*

Later this evening Karen will, I feel sure, warn you in stern terms about the risks arising from any slippage in the adoption timetable. But there are risks too, in adopting a seriously flawed plan today, if it then ends up needing a major re-work further down the line. I suspect these risks might actually be bigger.....that is a judgement you will need to make tonight. Thank you very much for listening.

But finally....I have some late breaking news. One of the 300 objection emails is especially noteworthy. It was also sent to Sandra Scott and the Committee Chairman early this afternoon. It's come from two Chartered Town Planners and it advises Sandra that the Langham 900 allocation will fail **all 3** Soundness Tests in the NPPF. I do hope that the content of that email has been, or will be, shared in full with the Committee before you are asked to vote tonight?