Response about the village

Stilton believes that development should be directed towards the areas which already have the highest level of services, infrastructure, employment and connectivity; areas such as Huntingdon, St Neots, Godmanchester, Brampton, St. Ives, Ramsey and Sawtry.

Although classed as a Small Settlement, Stilton has already seen lots of new houses being built with 90 houses on the northern end of the village and planning for 86, but consent for 70, at the southern end. If all the developments currently in the planning pipeline (before the Call for Sites) go ahead, there would be a 25% increase in the number of homes in Stilton since 2018.

Stilton is a small, historic village wanting to retain its identity. As an historic village, Stilton does not have the infrastructure to cope with any large developments. We are struggling now and would not cope with more development without a massive capital investment programme to upgrade roads, sewers, drainage, the electricity supply, parking provision and school. We worry about flooding.

All the proposals refer to services and shops, there is only one shop and one chemist, both with serious parking issues.

There are not many employment opportunities.

While Stilton may have accessibility to the bus network linking the village to Huntingdon and Peterborough, the current bus times are not practicable for those travelling to work because there is no evening service or Sunday service. A vehicle is still essential.

The road network is under pressure from increased traffic. There are safely issues crossing the roads and parking is a major problem. There is insufficient street parking near the shop and the chemist.

Stilton only has one main road into the village and the same road to exit the village.

The Norman Cross roundabout over the A1(M) is already under pressure from traffic at rush hour times, and Peterborough's Great Haddon Urban Extension at Norman Cross (including 5,300 dwellings, schools, shops, sports fields, etc) is now being developed at speed which will greatly add to the traffic issues.

The proposed Commercial developments immediately north of Stilton will add to the traffic and possibly road safety issues entering and leaving Stilton. In the Call for Sites there is commercial development proposed to the west of the A1(M) between junction 16 and junction 17. This commercial development is likely to be warehousing and distribution centres which are fully automated, and so will not be a large source of employment but could cause safety problems with the sheer number of movements of very large vehicles.

The Parish Council draws your attention to the provision of healthcare for the village of Stilton. Lakeside Surgery at Yaxley cover Stilton and is currently under huge pressure. When telephoning for an appointment you can often find yourself number 34 in the queue! The residents from the massive development at Great Haddon will be allotted to Lakeside Yaxley, so the Parish Council feels that the health centre will not have the capacity to deal with future development.