From: wirepuller@hotmail.com  
To: annehenshaw   
  
Subject: RE: Wiltshire Northern Area Planning Committee - 17 Feb 2016  
Date: Thu, 18 Feb 2016 21:43:43 +0000

Ms Henshaw,

You may have noticed the exclamation mark in my 'thanks' email - this was significant.

I understand from your response that CPRE only becomes involved in "Defending the countryside" (from your website homepage) through formal channels (i.e. by approaches from local councils). Is this correct?

I ask because I sent emails to your office on 10th December 2013, 2nd January 2014, 26th January 2014, 29th January 2014 and 7th February 2014 regarding west Corsham developments and received no response whatsoever, not even an acknowledgement. The 7th February 2014 email contained the following paragraph:

*There is now a 'new' speculative development proposal (170 homes), from Redcliffe Homes, on greenfield land just to the east of the 13/05724/OUT (Rudloe) proposal and just to the west of the 13/05188/OUT (Pickwick) proposal. With this new proposal, Pickwick and Rudloe will become as one!*  
  
So CPRE was aware of the Redcliffe proposal two years ago. In spite of this, no representation was made by CPRE on the original Redcliffe proposal (14/04179/OUT) or the current, resubmitted proposal (15/10519/OUT).

Corsham Town Council's and Box Parish Council's comments on 14/04179/OUT follow:

*It was unanimously Resolved: that the application be refused on the grounds that Corsham Town Council’s policy is to retain a green buffer between Corsham itself and the outlying settlements; concerns over the findings of the mining assessment; inappropriate site when other more suitable sites were coming forward; Corsham is already nearing the indicative housing figure allocated to the town in the Core Strategy which covers the period to 2026 and therefore queried the implied need for this proposal; the development was felt to be poorly planned; there was a lack of demonstrated need for the proposed community facilities and they were felt to be inappropriately sited within the scheme.*

*Concerns about the increased traffic on the B3109 and the general infrastructure. However, there is a need for affordable houses as identified in the Rudloe Housing Survey and the Box Community Plan. As Box Parish Council cemetery is nearer than Corsham we require the S106 contribution comes to Box.*

Interesting that Box Parish Council (on 17th June 2014) did not object to this development application in Corsham Parish! The referenced Rudloe Housing Survey identified a need for ten subsidised homes and one sheltered home which requirements had already, effectively, been satisfied by the 88-home Hannick development at Rudloe, in Box Parish, which was approved (and was supported by Box Parish Council) at the Northern Area Planning Committee of 16th March 2014 .

I apologize for going into so much detail but it is surprising that Box Parish Council is being so parochial when its chairman is also the vice-chairman of North Wiltshire CPRE!

Could this linkage be why North Wiltshire CPRE has raised no objections to either the Hannick, Rudloe or the Redcliffe, Corsham greenfield developments?

Forgive me my cynicism.

Sincerely

Paul Turner

From: wirepuller@hotmail.com  
To: annehenshaw   
  
Subject: RE: Wiltshire Northern Area Planning Committee - 17 Feb 2016  
Date: Thu, 18 Feb 2016 14:31:53 +0000

Ms Henshaw,

Thanks for the prompt response!

Regards

Paul Turner

From: annehenshaw   
To: wirepuller@hotmail.com  
  
Subject: Re: Wiltshire Northern Area Planning Committee - 17 Feb 2016  
Date: Thu, 18 Feb 2016 11:51:49 +0000

Dear Mr. Turner,

A number of organisations in Calne have approached me on a regular basis with requests to make specific comments on applications in the Calne Community Area, one of these being the Town Council and others the committees for the Neighbourhood Plan and the Master Plan.

The town council of Calne have been consistently raising objections for several years on the imbalance of housing and employment growth and the serious concerns of a failing retail sector and have been in constant touch with CPRE.  I have never been approached on similar grounds by Corsham Town Council or those putting together local community plans to make these points.

There are indeed similarities between Corsham and Calne with regard to the 5 yr housing land supply, employment and over delivery at these settlements.

Unfortunately Wiltshire Council has produced a very poor Local Plan, the Core Strategy. (as evidenced by the answers from the planning officer to my, and members, questions yesterday)  This, combined with a rapidly diminishing desire to confront developers at Appeal and low calibre application reports and conclusions, results in any robust approach to fine line points being abandoned by the Council.

I can assure you that there is no CPRE lack of interest in Corsham, Box, Pickwick or any of the other centres in the Corsham area and I am kept fully informed through Box Parish Council of what happens on that side of Corsham town. We have been, and are, closely involved in the current situation at Chippenham through local groups and local members.

However lobbying is a factor with CPRE as much as any other organisation and our Branch and Group respond to any approaches accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Henshaw

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Paul Turner](mailto:wirepuller@hotmail.com)

**To:** Anne Henshaw

**Sent:** Thursday, February 18, 2016 10:49 AM

**Subject:** Wiltshire Northern Area Planning Committee - 17 Feb 2016

Dear Ms Henshaw,

At the subject meeting, your points regarding the over-development of Calne, the requirement for jobs (if development were to go ahead) and the likelihood of Calne becoming a commuter or dormitory town were well-made.

However, the same points apply to Corsham and, as you will know, following the discussions on the two Calne planning applications, there was a 170-home greenfield proposal for west Corsham before the committee.

Why then did you leave the meeting after the discussions on Calne? Also why did CPRE make no representation on the Corsham development? Is the limit of interest of CPRE North Wiltshire branch Calne and its environs?

This is very disappointing as we have experienced this lack of interest from CPRE (and expressed our disappointment to you and your national officers without response) previously regarding proposed greenfield developments in Corsham.

Sincerely

Paul Turner