

The GreenSquare ‘Rudloe regeneration consultation’

You may be aware that GreenSquare is holding a ‘consultation’ event in their Blue Bus on Wednesday 22nd September from 5pm to 7pm. The bus will be located in the central car park close to the Community Centre. And, by the way, ‘consultation’ is in quotes as it is nothing of the sort because ...

- GreenSquare always intended to build on the Green and demolish the Community Centre. The supposed ‘steering group’ and previous consultations have been nothing more than a sham designed to illustrate to Wiltshire Council how they have consulted local people in the design and development process. And now, after hiding their intentions for years, this ‘consultation’ has a cut-off date of 27th September – people have just a few days to give their opinions about their ‘regeneration’ plan, **the detail of which has finally been revealed**. GreenSquare has held the people of Rudloe in contempt; we should now do the same and refuse to participate in their sham.
- The fact that GreenSquare intends to build 51 homes (and then demolish 25 homes) has nothing to do with a housing requirement for local people. This is purely for the benefit of GreenSquare’s balance sheet – 51 is the minimum number which will give GreenSquare a ‘profit’. The Green will be lost for their benefit, not ours.
- 85 social homes have just been built across the Bradford Road at Dickens Gate and Park Place. GreenSquare could have bid for these but they chose not to. 50 more social homes are also planned among the 168 to be started soon at the ex-RAF Rudloe No 2 Site in Westwells Road. There is no local requirement for more homes.
- If you choose to respond to GreenSquare’s feedback form, you should be aware that supposedly ‘innocent’ questions are a **trick** and a **trap**. If you answer “Do you have any preference to property finishes, eg brick with cladding, or the proposed colour scheme?”, GreenSquare will use this on their planning application to show Wiltshire Council that the people of Rudloe want these homes so much that they are even choosing finishes and colours. **Do not answer these questions**.
- If (God help us) GreenSquare does receive planning permission to build on the Green and then demolish the existing twenty-five 1970s homes, think about how long this would take (Dickens Gate, across the road has taken three years) and how much traffic, noise and pollution there would be (JCBs, piledrivers, diggers, trucks etc) and where would the children play during these ‘lost’ years?
- Rudloe Green is designated Public Open Space. It is our village green. Wiltshire Council was supposed to consult over its **disposal** but they have failed to do so. But this word ‘disposal’ typifies the attitude of Wiltshire Council and GreenSquare.

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The Green and other green space

What of GreenSquare's statement that there will be an "Accessible green space area which will be larger than the current provision". The maps below show the current green space and GreenSquare's proposed green space. Current space totals 0.89 hectares or 2.22 acres; GreenSquare's proposed green space totals 0.66 hectares or 1.67 acres.



Current green space:

The Green: 0.63 hectares/1.56 acres

Other green spaces:

by entrance to Community Centre: 0.08 hectares/0.2 acres

around Club Row: 0.13 hectares/0.33 acres

at 'top end' of Westwood/Leylands: 0.05 hectares/0.13 acres

Total current green space: 0.89 hectares or 2.22 acres



GreenSquare's proposed 'green': 0.66 hectares/1.67 acres