Cabinet

1 December 2020

From Mike Blanchard

To Cllr Philip Whitehead – Leader and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, MCI and Communications; and Cllr Toby Sturgis – Cabinet Member for Spatial Planning, Development Management and Property

Item 5 – Public Participation; and Item 8 – Consultation to inform the Wiltshire Local Plan Review

Statement

I would like to raise my concerns about the housing developments proposed for Chippenham by providing a statement to the cabinet meeting planned for 1st December.

I am concerned that the number of houses are completely unrealistic and unreasonable for a town the size of Chippenham.

The development would bring about an indelible scar across some of the most beautiful countryside in the country with a devastating effect on the local flora and fauna. Further environmental damage would be caused by the inevitable release of vast amounts of CO2 and other forms of waste during the building of the houses and this would continue long into the future in the form of congestion and traffic-derived pollution.

As we have seen with developments currently in-progress in Monkton Park this appears to be another case of WCC imposing their will on the people of Chippenham without suitable and responsible consultation. This is demonstrated by the unreasonable and limited timescale given to review the vast amount of documentation which itself will effectively hide the full details of how devastating this development would be from many Chippenham residents. This clearly is not a fair or democratic process and so this project should be postponed to allow for a thorough and proper consultation process to carried out and for all concerns to be appropriately addressed.