

# E.V.A.D.E.

Ecclesbourne Valley Against Development Excesses

**NEWS LETTER NO. 9**

12<sup>th</sup> August 2022

## AVBC LOCAL PLAN

### Preferred Spatial Strategy for Housing and Economic Growth and Draft Policies.

Amber Valley have now published their draft policies for the proposed new Local Plan. This follows the consultation which ran from July to September last year.

The full document is available via the following link: <https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/preferred-spatial-strategy-for-housing-and-economic-growth-and-draft-policies/>

It is a lengthy document including a lot of background information as well as the actual proposals.

We have produced a Review Document based on (but much shorter than) the original document which includes the proposed policies along with some comments relating to our particular interests in the Ecclesbourne Valley. The Review Document will be attached to your e-mail alongside this News Letter.

AVBC advise that "The consultation and engagement process will extend up to 4.30 pm on Friday 2 September 2022." The next stage will be Publication of the Pre-submission Local Plan planned for December 2022 – January 2023.

A few key points stand out. The policy would be to provide for a minimum of 7,885 additional homes between 2022-2039 This growth will take place in the following locations:-

- within and surrounding the four urban areas of Alfreton, Belper, Heanor and Ripley
- on the edge of the urban area of Derby in the form of a significant urban extension
- within and immediately adjacent to villages in accessible and sustainable locations that promote the vitality and viability of communities, maintain their rural character and individual settlement identities and meet the needs of local communities.

A number of sites are proposed for housing development none of which fall within the Ecclesbourne Valley area, however they only account for 1,894 houses. The remainder are expected to come from housing for which planning permission has already been granted plus some brownfield development. This would appear to indicate that Ecclesbourne Valley should not see any further development apart from existing permissions and brownfield sites (if there are any).

As indicated above, the consultation period lasts only until 2<sup>nd</sup> September so it is important that any comments are made before then. The AVBC document includes a link to an on-line-consultation form which is: [Online consultation form preferred spatial strategy \(ambervalley.gov.uk\)](https://www.ambervalley.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/preferred-spatial-strategy)

E.V.A.D.E. will be making a response but it is important that AVBC should receive as many personal representations as possible to emphasise that fact that the whole population has an interest in what might happen to our environment.

**DON'T DELAY – ACT NOW**

## The Future of E.V.A.D.E.

It is arguable that E.V.A.D.E. has fulfilled its purpose – as least for the time being. It was initially formed when there was a threat of a massive development of 2,000 new houses in our valley. Through discussions with the land-owners and representations to the local authorities it seems that that threat has gone, at least for the moment. The proposals for the new Local Plan do not include any specific sites for new housing in the Ecclesbourne Valley although there are still some sites that were put forward at the “Call for Sites” and which could potentially raise their heads again, and the demand for new housing sites will continue.

The consensus of the committee is that E.V.A.D.E. should not be closed down entirely but should be put into a “dormant” state. Present contact details would be retained (for use only in connection with E.V.A.D.E. matters) and a watching brief would be kept on planning applications etc. in our area, but no further action would be undertaken unless new circumstances justified it.

Anyone wishing to have their details deleted should advise us at [2020evade@gmail.com](mailto:2020evade@gmail.com) and their request will be actioned promptly

We started at the same time as the Covid pandemic started and partly for that reason we have stagnated in terms of committee membership. I may have kicked the ball into play originally but I never intended to take the Chairmanship role and now I would welcome offers from any members to take on a role on the committee, possibly as Chairman, noting that in the “dormant” state duties would not be onerous. Please contact us via the e-mail above. It may be that some members would like to see a more active role for E.V.A.D.E. in the future in which case here is the opportunity to get involved.

Meanwhile, as ever, your opinions would be appreciated.

Dick Skinner, Chairman.

## Neighbourhood Plans

While the Local Plan sets the scene for the whole of the Amber Valley Borough, the “powers that be” also have to take account of more local objectives and plans. Some of our parishes already have Neighbourhood Plans in force, meanwhile Turnditch and Windley have a working draft for a Neighbourhood Plan on which they will be inviting everyone in the villages to make comments this Autumn.

In Shottle and Postern Parish (which includes Cowers Lane) approval has been given to develop a plan but there is a need for volunteers to get involved. Anyone interested in taking an active part in the process of developing the Neighbourhood Plan should contact Ian Phillips on [ian.phillips.fci@gmail.com](mailto:ian.phillips.fci@gmail.com). The continued development in Cowers Lane might be seen as a good reason for us to take interest and some degree of control about what might be happening next!

## Don't Forget

**Turnditch & Windley Show.** It is on Saturday 3rd September 2022 and will feature a huge horse show as well as almost 100 different flower, handicrafts and produce classes for you to enter and enjoy.

Details at [www.turnditchandwindley.co.uk](http://www.turnditchandwindley.co.uk)

Contact E.V.A.D.E. via [2020evade@gmail.com](mailto:2020evade@gmail.com)  
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