

COMMUNITY

Fareham community news

RESIDENTS' VIEW

Will our surrounding villages survive the Welborne town plan?

Ann Marie Roberts and Karen Brown, of the Funtley Village Society, say flooding is a key issue that needs to be addressed before thousands of homes are built

AS MOST people are aware, a new town of Welborne is planned for land, currently agricultural land, just north of Funtley.

Our question is, has anyone thought about the environmental consequences of 6,500 homes, a business/industrial estate of 78,650sq m, roads and all the other infrastructure will have on the surrounding villages of Funtley, Wallington, Knowle and Wickham, not to mention the rest of Fareham and beyond?

Funtley already has issues at the south end of the fields during rainy periods.

Yet again, Funtley Meadows is experiencing substantial rainfall and, at the time of writing, it remains sodden.

So has this scheme overcome the flooding problem?

FUNTLEY VILLAGE SOCIETY



DEVELOPMENT An artist's impression of Welborne

Wallington, according to the Environment Agency, is already classified as a medium to high-risk area with 117 homes at significant/moderate risk.

What will happen if Welborne is built?

Can Fareham Borough Council confirm it has been in consultation with the Envi-

ronmental Agency to receive appropriate and up-to-date information to support flood plans for the whole area?

Surely anyone can see that changing green fields into tarmac and concrete can only result in a rising flood risk for the lower lying areas around the site.

Have the council and the

developers looked at these issues, along with a myriad of other issues which need to be addressed before this plan can even be considered by central government e.g. the high level development principles as stated in the Draft Welborne Plan?

We understand that Fareham Borough Council and proposed developers will model Welborne on the Poundbury principle.

Interestingly, phase one promoted an ideal living lifestyle with 'sized' green space.

Noticeably on phase two this seems to be the opposite - with an almost 'town-like' experience.

This is not what we want for Welborne and is not in keeping with the current surrounding communities which will end up being subsumed into Welborne.

Where in the Welborne Plan does the strategic green infrastructure meet the needs of the proposed development?

How much green space will be left after the building of 6,500 homes, 78,650sq m of industrial/business units, schools, roads etc, are built?