



HFDAG - Hanwell Fields Development Action Group

## Can we get an answer?

### Letter to Councillors from Hanwell resident

*Dear Councillors*

*I am writing to you as a resident of Hanwell Fields and a member of the HFDAG group (Hanwell Fields Development Action Group) to ask for your help in fighting the expansion plans for Hanwell Fields. There was a meeting this week of the Community Association and I believe you were all invited, but none attended or sent apologies, which is very disappointing, especially as the deadline for responding to CDC's local plan runs out before the next community meeting, so the intention was to talk to the Councillors attending of our collective concerns.*

*The HFDAG website has lots of research and details of our objections, but a major concern is the lack of proper consultation with local residents. The CDC website is absolutely appalling and not helped by the renumbering of several sites in the various plans in recent years. Another concern is that the Persimmon site that CDC fought so hard to have rejected (the Secretary of State ruled) appears to have now been adopted by the very same council in pretty much the same form. All of the issues that led to the rejection in 2006 remain, such as local schools access, transport, roads etc. On the face of it, CDC's 180 degree turn on this seems an insult to the people of Hanwell Fields.*

*The proposals would double the size of Hanwell Fields and this will have a massive impact on local facilities and schools. In the local plan, no provision is planned at Primary level to accomodate about 100 (at least) extra children...yet Hanwell Fields School is already full and restricts access even within the current estate, and this is after adding an extension on. The report also mentions capacity at NOA...in 2008. Somewhat out of date.*

*Transport and roads is a major issue. The current heavy traffic on Southam and Warwick roads into town and the existing problem of rat running down the hill at Dukes Meadow Drive at high speed, lorries etc will only get worse with double the number of cars. Again, absolutely no plans to address this in the local plan.*

*Dukes Meadow Drive was supposed to form the Northern Boundary of Banbury when Hanwell Fields was developed and the importance of views to and access to open space*

*also featured heavily at the time. These plans seems to have been abandoned. where would you like the Northern Boundary to be now? Shotteswell?*

*I understand that Tony Baldry has confirmed to CDC that there is adequate supply of housing with the developments already agreed, so why focus on Hanwell Fields? A softer target? Are these houses actually needed, or does the council just want the 30% social housing contribution and cash from developers?*

*Finally, if any councillors care to walk or drive round Hanwell Fields (with all seriousness, how often do you?) you will see that CDC's complete ineptitude in managing large scale developments has resulted in a good portion of the current estate not even adopted, after about 9 years and the paths and roads now a patchwork quilt of repairs that will not last a year and make the whole estate look a complete mess. This is absolutely incredible and is a damning indictment of CDC. Loads of services are provided still by the developers, a situation the council seems happy with as we pay our council tax and someone else picks up the costs of works. It seems to me that CDC have proved themselves incapable of dealing with Hanwell Fields Phase 1, and so should get this sorted and learn some real life lessons about development before embarking any further.*

*Would you all be prepared to attend a local public meeting soon to discuss this, hopefully with Tony Baldry in attendance?*

*Regards  
W Neale*

HFDAG - Hanwell Fields Development Action Group - [www.hfdag.org.uk](http://www.hfdag.org.uk)

Press Contact [pr@hfdag.org.uk](mailto:pr@hfdag.org.uk)

20 September 2012