

From the Chairman of Lower Heyford Parish Council

Application by Bonnar Allan on behalf of Corpus Christi for planning permission to build 5000 houses at Lower Heyford

SAY 'NO' TO GREAT HEYFORD : Newsletter # 1

27 April 2016

By now I am sure that most of you will be aware of the fact that there has been a speculative initial expression of interest to build a staggering 5,000 new homes to the south and east of Lower Heyford.

Lower Heyford Parish Council believes that any such development will irrevocably and materially change our lives in Lower Heyford and Caulcott and the surrounding parishes to our enormous detriment. As a council we are firmly opposed to it and have taken the following immediate actions:

1. We are setting up a group which will be dedicated to ensuring that this application fails;
2. We are seeking to obtain the support of neighbouring Parishes and the Mid Cherwell Neighbourhood Plan as the residents of all these areas will be dramatically affected if this development goes ahead;
3. We are seeking to obtain the support of Rousham House and its community;
4. We are seeking the support of our local MP, Victoria Prentis, local councillors and other influencers.

We intend to ensure that as far as possible the focus of the opposition group will be to make sure that any application fails and to do so in a cost effective manner.

Many people have kindly already asked us: "What can we do to help?"

The answer, if you wish to help, is:

- A. Write to our clerk, Cathy Fleet, at parishclerk.lowerheyford@gmail.com and make sure you are on the list that she maintains of residents along with their addresses and e-mail addresses: that way we can keep you most easily informed as to what is happening;
- B. If you have any skills at all which you think will help and can volunteer some time, no matter how little, please let us know *urgently*. You can contact our clerk as above or any of the parish councillors, or Bruce Eggeling at bruce.eggeling@yahoo.com who is co-ordinating the initial set up of the Group;
- C. We are particularly interested in hearing from lawyers, accountants, senior managers, diplomats, fundraisers, communications experts, IT specialists and web site creators, PR people, planners and planning lawyers, project managers, those in all aspects of administration and any folk who would be able to deliver flyers and newsletters to all houses in the villages and those villages around us. This is a big fight and we need a big and able team to fight it;
- D. Whilst we hope that most required skills will be drawn from the community on a voluntary basis, inevitably there will be some costs involved and we would ask you to consider pledging support on a one off or regular basis to help meet the costs. More will follow on how you can do this in a future newsletter.

We have many enormously talented people in the villages and nearby and we are sure that we can count on the support of everyone to defeat this inappropriate and unacceptable application.

This is a scheme which we are determined to see fail and, with your support and that of the wider community, we pledge to do everything in our power to do just that. We will make sure you are updated by newsletters regularly.

Please do not assume we know about your talents..let us know and join us in our fight!

James Macnamara