

ICKLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL



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Strategic Planning and Projects Group
North Hertfordshire District Council,
PO Box 480,
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29 November 2016

To whom it may concern

Re: Sites IC1, IC2, IC3 (Ickleford) and LS1 (Lower Stondon) in the Proposed Submission Local Plan 2011-2031

Ickleford Parish Council fully understands and supports the need for additional housing; indeed it is deliberately not objecting to one of the proposed sites (LS1) comprising 120 new dwellings. In addition, Ickleford Parish Council would like to propose a reduced number of houses for site IC3 which would only be located on the South side of BR15. This proposal would be subject to the satisfactory resolution of the sewerage problem in Ickleford and would remove the land that is currently being farmed from the Plan.

The additional houses associated with all four sites included in this Proposed Local Plan would increase our housing stock from 844 to 1200 (which equates to a 40% increase). This is disproportionate to the rest of North Hertfordshire, is an above average increase for a Category A village, and will fundamentally alter the nature and fabric of Ickleford. The Parish Council believes that a reduction in the number of houses proposed for the village by the removal from the Local Plan of sites IC1 and IC2, as well as the partial removal of site IC3 as mentioned above, would still help meet the need for additional housing in North Hertfordshire whilst taking into account the concerns raised in this submission.

Additionally, as NHDC has not accounted for any impact associated with the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan, we believe the Plan is unsound. We are concerned that any sites proposed for the Central Bedfordshire settlements of Lower Stondon, Henlow and Arlesey will further increase the volume of traffic travelling through Ickleford, and affect the air quality in the village.

We are submitting more detailed objections and observations elsewhere in the NHDC consultation website.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miles Maxwell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miles Maxwell
Chairman, Ickleford Parish Council