

Sent: 31 January 2013 23:14

To: Programme Officer

Subject: **Robin Cole-Morgan** - Development outside Morton Way, Thornbury.

Dear Inspector,

I would like to express my concern about the proposed development of housing outside the boundary of Morton Way. I believe this will be the thin edge of the wedge which will result in further development on green fields on one side of this already unbalanced town.

The character of Thornbury, already damaged by lopsided development, will be further damaged by the proposed development. The distance from the centre will necessitate the provision of local amenities which will reduce the possibility of rejuvenating the existing town.

The essence of a community is that distances should be, if possible, walkable, and development outside Morton Way will result in more car journeys, some into Thornbury, where parking is an increasing problem, but many more to other larger shopping centres, creating a dormitory environment with no allegiance to Thornbury itself, thereby damaging the very reason for wishing to live in a small town of character.

Whilst understanding the need for further housing, I feel that if Thornbury must expand, it should be done in a balanced manner so that the town centre is indeed the centre. Unless this happens businesses and retail outlets in Thornbury will die from lack of clientele. The few shops which are not 'charity shops' will fast wither and die and what will be the attraction for living here other than easy access to the motorway network.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Cole-Morgan
