

I am writing to express my opposition to the belated proposal by the Planning Inspector of South Gloucestershire's Core Strategy to require the Council to build 300 houses at a site adjacent to the junction of Morton Way and Gloucester Road.

It has already been agreed as part of the Core Strategy that 28,000 houses will be built in South Gloucestershire and that 500 of these will be at the Park Farm site in Thornbury. It seems very likely too, that a new nuclear power station will be built at Shepperdine in the comparatively near future.

There must be a limit to the amount of development that Thornbury can accept in a short space of time without losing all trace of its origins as an historic market town. It is inevitable that both of the developments will place an increased strain on existing facilities and infrastructure in and around the town, most particularly on local roads. As the B4061 Gloucester Road is the shortest distance between both Park Farm/Shepperdine and the motorway system to Bristol/Gloucestershire and beyond, it seems likely that most new traffic will choose this route to and from the new development sites and the outside world. To add yet another development at the junction of Gloucester Road and Morton Way which would exacerbate this problem would be totally irresponsible.

I trust that the Inspector will consider why previous generations of Councillors and planning officers have taken such care to establish and preserve Morton Way as a barrier to prevent development sprawling out of control across the South Gloucestershire countryside and that he will determine to withdraw this proposal before it can cause irreparable damage to the character of Thornbury and its surroundings.

Charles Morgan