

Core Strategy Inquiry 7 March 2013
Additional 300 houses at Thornbury

I wish to object to the proposal to add 300 more houses to Thornbury adjacent to Morton Way. My objections are as follows:

Following four years of discussion with all interested parties it was agreed that Thornbury has the infrastructure to just about accommodate a further 500 houses. This outcome demonstrates that Thornbury inhabitants are aware of the need for additional housing in the region and are prepared to be accommodating.

The proposal to add a further 300 houses would increase the total to 800 which would require the present infrastructure also to be increased, a requirement which is at present totally impracticable.

The late decision of the Inspector's to add a further 300 houses is unreasonable and arbitrary. It makes a mockery of the extensive and time consuming consultation process. No doubt most of the interested parties gave their time free of charge and if the proposal is forced through would feel, quite rightly, that their time had been wasted.

On a personal note, as an ex-Parish Councillor in Somerset I have had direct experience of working on a government inspired Local Plan only to have the outcome enthusiastically accepted and then ignored. Such a situation is extremely irritating and does little to encourage one to cooperate in the future.

If it is really necessary for an additional 300 house in this area of the country I would suggest that a few, say no more than 10, be added to the presently agreed 500 and the balance be spread in small pockets of development amongst the outlying villages.

Alan Purssord