

Update 17 May.

An Inter-Council working party has been formed to fight the Eton College 'New town' threat and will also work together to oppose any unplanned and unwanted development. This group is made up of councillors from East Chilington, Plumpton, Chailey, Hamsey, Barcombe, Wivelsfield, Streat, Westmeston and Ditchling. The group recently met with Sussex representatives from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) who briefed us on a recent CPRE meeting with our MP, Maria Caulfield, held to discuss the current failure of planning policy and resulting threat of unplanned development.

We are grateful to the CPRE for sharing their pre-meeting notes which can be found [here \(CPRE Pre-meeting notes\)](#). This explains very clearly the reasons behind the unreasonably high housing target and how the current situation was created by changes in Planning Policy which weakened local democracy and strengthened the hand of land speculators and developers.

Maria Caulfield was apparently supportive of the following points:-

1. The Housing Delivery Test should be abolished.
2. The assessment of local housing needs should be based on the most up-to-date evidence available.
3. The "affordability factor" should be removed from the process of assessing housing need and the standard method as this increases housing targets in the most profitable areas and will therefore do nothing for the government's 'levelling up' agenda.

[The post meeting follow up letter to Maria Caulfield can be viewed here.](#)

Plumpton Parish Council thanks CPRE for their permission to publish these documents which are well worth reading.

- [The Parish Council Objections letter to the Nolands Application](#)
- [CPRE Objection to Nolands](#)

We also would like to thank neighbouring Parish Councils who have supported us and taken the time to send in their objections.