

## Loxwood Place

### Keith Woods – Chair of Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The recently adopted CDC Local Plan requires Loxwood to allocate development sites for a minimum of 188 additional houses expected to be delivered from 2035 on – and in step with infrastructure improvements.

LPC and many residents objected to this number of houses and the consequent impact on the school, doctors surgery, roads and above all the sewerage system and made representations to CDC and in person to the planning inspector. While the inspector was sympathetic he was not able to reduce the number.

Consequently the Steering Group was set up.

9 sites were identified as potentially sustainable for development.

In questionnaires, residents were asked to:

- Submit their preferences for development sites
- Propose new or improved facilities they would like to see in the village

In terms of facilities wanted there was a high level of support for:

- Bridleway improvements / Active Travel
- Active Play area
- Open Green space / Biodiversity
- A Children's Nursery
- Allotments
- Multi Use Sports Area

While the final site allocations have not be decided it is important to be aware that in the context of the Loxwood Place application being discussed here today:

- Loxwood Place was one of the most preferred sites
- Loxwood Place was first choice for twice as many residents as any of the other 8 sites
- Loxwood Place is the only site able to deliver the facilities that residents want to see in the village.
- All of the proposed sites are 'green field'

I have concerns that this application is for too many houses and is premature and should await completion of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Having looked at the objections submitted I am concerned that they are mostly focused on the number of houses to be built in Loxwood and the impact on local infrastructure rather than the specifics of this application.

That at least 188 additional homes will be built in Loxwood is already decided.

It makes no difference in terms of impact on the school, doctors surgery, traffic or the sewerage system, whether they are built on this one site alone or across all 9 sites.