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**Chairman: Keith Leaman, ARIBA**



The Editor  
Hampshire Chronicle  
5 Upper Brook Street  
Winchester SO23 8AL

24<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.

Dear Sir,

**Pitt Vale**

The City of Winchester Trust recently received a presentation by Linden Homes of their proposed development at Pitt Vale, the area between the Pitt Manor development and Pitt village. They had presented the scheme to us before but wished to show us a number of changes that they had made. Linden Homes is a responsible developer, but we objected the first time and have objected again.

The Trust is currently drawing its conclusions on Winchester City Council's emerging Local Plan Part 2, which defines the direction in which Winchester accommodates future growth. As far as Winchester 'Town' is concerned, the planners consider that they have identified sufficient sites in and around the City, without the need to use any further greenfield land, in order to absorb the additional 4,000 houses that Winchester is required to provide by central government over the next decade.

The proposed Pitt Vale development is therefore a major challenge to the Local Plan. It is being promoted by the developer as ideal for housing in that it can be delivered far more speedily than any of the identified housing sites, and with the right mix of dwellings. However, with the government looking for quick results, the developer sees an opportunity to develop this land.

We are objecting for a number of reasons, not only because it would contravene the Local Plan, but also because it would be a disaster for Winchester by obliterating a precious green setting, by creeping development towards Hursley, and by the impact on Winchester's congested roads and infrastructure. Such random development also begs the question of how much more can a small city take without ruining its beauty and historic well-being?

Yours faithfully,

Keith Leaman

Chairman  
City of Winchester Trust

(Note: This letter was not published by the Hampshire Chronicle, but reflects the Trust view on the Pitt Vale development proposal)

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