**Response to housing sites in Eversdens rejected so far.**

**The 7 strands:**

Homes

Infrastructure

Jobs

Climate change

Biodiversity and green spaces

Wellbeing and social inclusion

Great places

**Homes**. Great & Little Eversden ; The proposed sites lie in the greenbelt and outside the villages’ existing Development Framework Boundary. The proposed developments significantly exceed in scale Policy S/12 for infill villages in the South Cambs Local Plan, Sept 2018

**Infrastructure**. The Eversdens lie in a 10 square mile area of greenbelt served by no public transport and no cycle paths. Our only infrastructure is a mobile library that visits the villages 1 hour per month.

**Jobs.**Additional homes in our infrastructure-stressed community would not contribute to employment prospects.

**Climate change.** The Eversdens have 850 residents and no public transport or cycle paths, forcing all residents to travel by road by car. That is not a formula that assists climate change reduction. Any additional homes would be a further strain on the local environment and road networks.

**Biodiversity and green space.** The Bourn Brook**,** a site internationally famous for its success in restoring rare water vole populations and for reducing introduced American mink, runs through the Eversdens. There are only 200 chalk streams in the world and five are contiguous to our locality. Additionally, The Wimpole Estate and Eversden Woods are home to a large breeding colony of one of our rarest bats, the Barbastelle, and are protected for this reason with one of the highest UK designations, a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0030331>

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**Wellbeing and social inclusion.** The rejection of the proposed sites is the correct one for a community with virtually no infrastructure or local amenities where such quantities of additional homes will be wholly unsustainable.

**Great places.** Great places are also forgotten places. The Eversdens needs sensitive improvement in infrastructure – above all, one greenway cycle path to Comberton – to maintain the area as a great place to visit but also as a great place for its residents to live.

[for and on behalf of the Little & Great Eversden Parish Council]