



133 Dukes Ride
Crowthorne
RG45 6DP

Press Release

For immediate release
13 May 2023
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New Council, New Plan

Crowthorne Village Action Group (CVAG), a non-political association of residents, is calling on Bracknell Forest Council to review the plan for future development in the Bracknell area.

The recent elections for Bracknell Forest council have ushered in a new administration, and with it an opportunity for a fresh approach to planning sites for new homes. The old council was pursuing an aggressive agenda of building, delivering over twice the required number of houses, according to the office of national statistics. The emerging local plan, identifying sites for construction between now and 2036, continues this trend, identifying more sites than are required. These include 230 homes at Beaufort Park, in the woodland between Crowthorne and Great Hollands, and a further 220 homes at Wellington College, which would necessitate felling hundreds of mature trees. The independent external inspector agreed that the Bracknell Forest plan contained more homes than were necessary.

Said Andy Holley, chair of CVAG “Bracknell Forest is characterised by a modern town centre surrounded by open countryside and individual villages, each with their own distinct character. Strategic green gaps have been identified to maintain that separation. The plan promoted by the old council proposed to erode these gaps and would lead to urban sprawl as Bracknell, Wokingham and the surrounding villages merge into one conglomeration” Andy continues, “We know we need affordable houses for local residents but it needs to be the right homes in the right places. Now there is an opportunity for the new administration to halt the emerging local plan and start afresh”

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR EDITORS

Reference:

1. Housing delivery test figures published 14 Jan 2022 by UK government.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/housing-delivery-test-2021-measurement>

ONS Code	Area Name	Number of homes required			Total number of homes required	Number of homes delivered			Total number of homes delivered
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	

E06000036	Bracknell Forest	637	563	409	1609	783	1731	973	3487
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2. Bracknell draft local plan

<https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/emerging-bracknell-forest-local-plan/examination-library>

3. About CVAG

Crowthorne Village Action Group (CVAG) comprises residents who seek to protect the established character of Crowthorne Village and ensure that future developments are in keeping with their surroundings. Their goal is to ensure that all the agencies involved take proper notice of the infrastructure developments required to avoid negatively impacting the quality of life for residents. To this end CVAG works with developers, planners and the Parish Councils of Crowthorne and Wokingham Without to maximise awareness of and encourage them to preserve the village nature. <http://www.cvag.org.uk/>

For immediate comment please contact

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