

NEW THAMES FARM PLANNING APPLICATION

Last year the proposed residential development of the Thames Farm site in the parish of Harpsden between Shiplake & Henley was rejected as unsustainable after an 8 day public Inquiry at Henley Town Hall. So it is with a great deal of sadness that my colleagues in Shiplake Parish Council find themselves re-commencing the fight to prevent a similar plan for a large housing estate on the same green fields of Thames Farm.

A few things we would like to point out:

- **There is considerable financial muscle behind this hugely commercial development;**
- **The housing needs of the local area have already been identified democratically by proper process and using, wherever possible, existing brown field sites – this area does not need to find any further large scale housing.**
- **This site is outside the SODC core strategy; was rejected by residents by a significant margin as a site for residential development in the recent democratically approved Henley Harpsden Neighbourhood plan and has been opposed by every elected councillor, associated parish council, planning committee and government inspector. The Secretary of State also endorsed his Inspector's right to reject the previous application.**

The process of Localism has been followed to the letter and I would ask you all to campaign strongly against developers working against local democracy for commercial gain.

Do we really want to build houses on green fields when we don't have to? We are simply adding to the increased urbanisation and pollution of this beautiful corner of South Oxfordshire.

Tudor Taylor – Chairman, Shiplake Parish Council