

Site Allocation

- This would not be a benefit to this small rural community but would add pressures and difficulties.
- The Persimmon development of almost 300 houses in Melksham is just 2 miles away; development here is not a necessity.
- In the last 25 years Atworth has increased dramatically with Godwins Close, Nursery Close, Clock Tower View, Prospect Fields, Atworth Court, and Mount Pleasant rebuilt at a higher density.
- This site consists of valuable agricultural land. Most is currently farmed and the rest has lain fallow for many years.
- It can be subject to flooding.
- This site does not sit naturally within the village framework as unlike our other developments which branch off our main road; this is tucked away at the back of an industrial estate.
- Access to homes would mean driving and walking through that environment. It would have to be extremely well considered to avoid endangerment.
- The road is not particularly wide; it would require excellent site lines for lorries, industrial estate workers and farm vehicles, all moving within that vicinity in order to be safe.
- Our Youth Club would be on the main feeder road into that development, so young people could be endangered; adequate road safety measures would have to be put into place.
- The infrastructure is not secure; our drains flood, our broadband is slow and we understand that the sewerage system is at its limit.
- There are few employment opportunities in the village so a dormitory village is created with people commuting to work further increasing traffic.
- There are cuts to bus services through Atworth.
- Proportionate to the size of the village this is a large development being a 10% addition.
- This does not reflect the Housing Needs Survey of last year, which indicated that only four homes were needed.
- This would carry over 60% more affordable housing than is needed to meet village needs.
- Churchfields, The Village School, Atworth is full and we meet our target number pretty much year on year (called the Pan agreed by us and the local authority).
- The current situation is that reception and year one are a combined class. If there was a significant increase in numbers we would need to employ at least two staff members and sort another class out (which we currently don't have). This probably would have to be a mobile classroom (we already have two on site).
- There would be a considerable financial impact on our school in the short term as well as recruitment issues to deal with at a time of severe financial constraints.
- Children would have to be schooled at Monkton Farleigh, or Shaw (which is also full)
- There would be additional traffic on a road which already has a heavy volume of traffic, speeding traffic and heavy goods traffic impacting, as confirmed by our Community Speedwatch Group.
- There is a recognised problem walking our narrow pavements with the weight of traffic and this would be made greater.
- It is highly unlikely that the site will allocate sufficient parking of two cars per household, plus visitor parking (see Paxcroft Mead) which will add to the various many parking problems in the village.