

28 January 2018

To whomever it may concern

The inclusion of Jessel Green in the Local Plan is nothing short of a travesty. A well-loved, well-used Green that serves a community should not be considered for building on, when other sites are far more suitable. Its very existence was planned when the Debden Estate was first visualised as planners felt the open green space was required in such a built-up area for the very first inhabitants back in the late 40s/early 50s. So I fail to understand why you are now so keen to build upon it, at a time when it is needed more than ever. It is a recreational space used by children, dog walkers, kite flyers, not to mention those who use it for mental and physical well-being purposes. It brings the community together, as can be seen by the annual Jessel Green Fun Day. And let's not forget its importance as a landing site for our crucial air ambulance service. In the past 18 months alone, the Essex & East Herts Air Ambulance has utilised it to attend to emergencies no less than five times.

And as well as its aesthetic and practical purposes, how can inhabitants of 154 properties be justified in an area which already has three primary and two senior schools full to capacity? We now have to rely on just one bus service which struggles to cope with demand at all times of day and night as it is. To get a GP appointment in this area is a gamble because our local surgeries too are not coping with demand. I fail to see the sense in increasing an already vastly-populated area with even more residents. It seems to me that Jessel Green has been proposed as an "easy" solution by EFDC with no consideration for those of us living in this area. Cllr Chris Pond quite rightly mentioned at the EFDC meeting on 14 December 2017 that Loughton is taking an unfair amount of homes in relation to other areas, based on the quota required and the share amongst the district.

This is all so very unjust. Loughton has had enough of being "dumped on" and taking our beloved Green away from us is yet another example of us bearing the . I truly hope Jessel Green is removed from the Local Plan and given the "Village Green" status that was first initiated back in 2012. We NEED our Green.

Yours faithfully

Elaine Hobbs