

Issues consultation; 22 February - 22 March 2021

Land east of Rayleigh Road, Daws Heath, Thundersley

1. What do you consider to be the most important issues related to the development of the site for housing?
A} The vital need for more forest habitat to absorb some of the pollution from the A127 and A129.

Note that there is strong evidence for adverse health effects for people living in housing close to high traffic volume roads; depleting the green areas between the A127, the A129 and a new housing area will both increase the pollution level from the extra traffic generated and reduce the positive effects of the present green fields barrier.

2. Do you have any suggestions on how any noted issues might be resolved or provided for?
A} Yes, by planting mixed broadleaf saplings with local school engagement to cover the entire site. Pollution will be reduced by the green wall effect and carbon capture by the growing trees will slowly but positively benefit the wider climate.

3. In addition to the allocated new homes, what uses do you believe should be provided on the site?
A} No houses, no flats, no business accommodation, just forest.
The Local Plan "allocation" was developed on the basis of a problem which is steadily being rendered obsolete.

As more flats and houses are built in Hadleigh and Thundersley, the perceived desirability of moving into this area has been progressively reduced. National organisations such as Government offices and the BBC are already being relocated to UK regions which need more activity and accommodation will be required in those areas.

4. Where on the site do you believe individual uses should be provided?
A} Forest tracks to encourage local people to walk through the developing forest, which will assist wildlife to flourish. The ability of a re-greened and developing forest area in this zone will also materially assist in the retention and gradual release of rainfall. Unsurprisingly, Rayleigh Weir floods because the traffic junction underpass is located where the water course would normally be. Anglia Water and CastlePoint Council - despite the history of evidence to the contrary on A129 and other roads - routinely assume that any amount of new housing with additional hard surface run-off can be handled within existing surface water drainage systems.

5. What form of recreational open space would be most appropriate to provide on site?
A} Several tracks and glades to offer controlled access and educational opportunities.

6. What form/type of housing do you think might be best provided on site?
A} Insect, bat and bird nesting facilities.

7. Any other comments?
A} Connection of the forest tracks and the forest itself with the rest of Daws Heath, Thundersley and thence into Belfairs Woods would help retain the area's ecology and strengthen its resistance to climate change.

Note: the area is east of Rayleigh Road, in Daws Heath, Thundersley - not Hadleigh.