

Eco-Town Plans - Have Your Say

Eco Town Threatens All Of Uttlesford

If you think an eco-town at Elsenham won't affect you, think again.

A new town at Elsenham would:

- Be the biggest settlement in Uttlesford
- Start a process of urbanisation of the whole district
- Put a strain on already inadequate infrastructure – railways, roads, schools - or we could lose what we have to the new town.

● Give a green light to Runway 2
Under the government's proposals, the 4,200 houses originally allocated to Uttlesford would go elsewhere in the District.

Uttlesford Liberal Democrats are urging local residents to take part in the government's eco-town consultation, which ends on 30th June.

Proposals for eco-towns at North East Elsenham and Hanley Grange (just over the border in Cambridgeshire) threaten to be the start of the urbanisation of our entire district. The proposed eco-town at Elsenham would open up the floodgates for further developments. Property developers are already promoting new housing estates in Great Chesterford, The Canfields, Little Easton, Little Dunmow and Stebbing.

Remember – other districts don't want an eco-town either. We have to show that Uttlesford's opposition is as at least as strong as theirs. Don't leave it to others; they may be leaving it to you!

3 THINGS YOU CAN DO

- Write to the government to tell them you oppose eco-towns at Elsenham and at Hanley Grange.

The Eco Towns Team,
Housing and Growth Programmes,
Department for Communities and
Local Government,
2/H9 Eland House,
Bressenden Place,
London SW1E 5DU
ecotowns@communities.gsi.gov.uk
The deadline is 30th June.

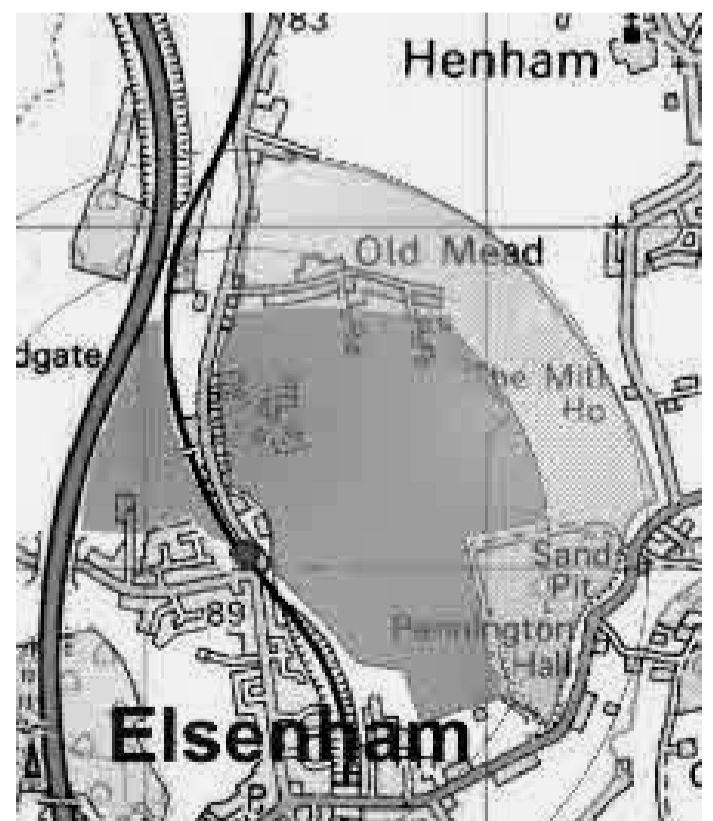
- Sign the Number 10 on-line petition to abandon plans to build an eco-town between Elsenham and Henham:

<http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/kenmcneil/>

- Please also sign:
<http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/stophanleygrange/>

4 Things To Tell The Government

- 1.** The sites of any eco-towns should be democratically chosen. The government is letting developers pick any sites that they fancy and the Government's shortlist of sites will be chosen by a panel of "experts" appointed by - you've guessed it - the Government.
- 2.** No evidence has been put forward to explain how the schools, shops, clinics and places of employment for Elsenham eco-town will be provided. Existing schools and shops could be lost to the new town.
- 3.** The existing road and railway system cannot cope with new eco-towns at Harlow North, Elsenham and Hanley Grange. Our transport infrastructure can barely cope at peak times at the moment.
- 4.** Eco-towns should be brownfield sites and be distinct communities. The proposed Elsenham eco-town will use valuable agricultural land between the existing villages of Elsenham and Henham.



● *Map of the proposed Elsenham eco-town*

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Overleaf: Whose Idea Was This Eco-Town Anyway?



Conservative Eco-Town Shambles - Yeah, But No, But....

Encouraged by Conservative councillors' plans for a 3000-house eco-town near Elsenham, the Labour government has proposed a 5000-house eco-town for the same site.

If the government proposal goes ahead, the original 4,200 new houses will have to go elsewhere in the district. Conservative incompetence has exposed our district to the threat of many more new houses than it would otherwise have got.

Having created this mess, Uttlesford's ruling Conservative councillors are now doing next to nothing to unite the district against the new town plans.

The council's planners appear not to know what to advise because there is no political leadership; the Conservatives'

arrogance of last September has turned to cowardice.

In April, Uttlesford's opposition Liberal Democrats supported the Conservatives in opposing the government's eco-towns. Sadly the Conservative majority refused to support the Lib Dem call to scrap the Council's nearly identical plan for a new town between Elsenham and Henham.

Only the Liberal Democrats have consistently said that housing growth should be distributed in a properly thought-out manner around the district's towns and villages, to help support our existing shops and schools.

It is now time Uttlesford's ruling Conservatives replaced hollow words with firm action to protect our district. Councils in Cambridgeshire are not dithering; nor should Uttlesford and Essex!

"A new settlement at this location is the preferred option in Uttlesford District Council's core strategy (for around 3,000 homes) and is supported by studies on transport, environment, settlement. The eco-town proposal is for a minimum of 5,000 homes and possibly more in the longer term."

**Eco-towns - Living a greener future
Government consultation paper
April 2008**

Look where the government got the idea from.



"Rather than putting strain on the infrastructure of other established communities, creating a new community has become a realistic option, particularly as government guidelines have changed and now regard communities of 5,000 as sustainable. We believe the fourth option we have put forward is worthy of further consideration and having considered it very carefully, it is our preferred option."

**Conservative Councillor Jim Ketteridge
Leader of Uttlesford District Council
Council Press Release, September 2007**

To receive updates on the Elsenham eco-town plan, send an e-mail to thinkagain@saffronwaldenlibdems.org.uk with "Sign up to campaign news" in the subject line.

Biggest Airport Battle Begins

Here To Help

Parliamentary Spokesman

Peter Wilcock ☎ 01279 850198

Uttlesford District Councillors

- Alan Dean ☎ 01279 813579
- Andrew Yarwood ☎ 07714 708815
- Antoinette Wattebot ☎ 07736 354151
- Catherine Dean ☎ 01279 813579
- Christina Cant ☎ 01371 856334
- Clive Smith ☎ 01371 873171
- David Morson ☎ 01279 850209
- Emily Gower ☎ 01371 859834
- Geoffrey Sell ☎ 01279 815925
- Janice Loughlin ☎ 01279 812346
- John Hudson ☎ 01279 814489
- Martin Foley ☎ 01371 831037
- Peter Wilcock ☎ 01279 850198
- Ron Clover ☎ 01371 859478

Saffron Walden Town Councillors

- Mike Hibbs ☎ 01799 525205
- Patrick Boland ☎ 01799 501301
- Richard Freeman ☎ 01799 525948

Uttlesford District Council has received a planning application from BAA for a second runway. Now is the time to say loudly and clearly that we do not want it.

Put your views to Uttlesford District Council, Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER as soon as possible, but no later than 26 September.

A Second Runway means

- More flights, More noise, More pollution
- More cars on the roads, More fly parking

- More overcrowding on the trains
- More urbanisation
- More land grabbed
- More houses destroyed

Don't let this happen to our lovely district.



Help Us To Help You



LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

■ Name(s):

■ Address:

■ E-mail:

■ Phone:

Please return to: Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST CL2702, Stansted CM24 8BR.

- I will be voting Lib Dem next time.
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems to help with their campaigns. Please contact me.
- I'd like a postal vote. Please contact me.
- I will display a garden/window poster at election time.
- I can deliver 50 or so leaflets. Please contact me.