

**PRESS RELEASE FROM BURWASH PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Planned Housing at Strand Meadow, Burwash**

**Burwash Parish Council has vowed to fight a proposal to build 30 homes in the village, branding the plans unsuitable, unworkable and a betrayal of trust.**

The Council said Park Lane Homes had reneged on a pledge to include 12 much-needed affordable homes in its scheme to develop land next to Strand Meadow in Burwash village, proposing instead that all the units would be on sale at market prices.

The plans will overwhelm local infrastructure, damage the Wealden Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, do nothing to meet the genuine housing needs of young families and blight the local environment, the council said in a submission to planners at Rother District Council (RDC).

BPC is already challenging a scheme by Denton Homes to build 42 homes in the village amid growing community worries about the ability of Burwash to absorb new housing targets set by RDC.

“As part of our Neighbourhood Plan Consultations, it has become increasingly evident that Burwash has no appropriate land to build on the scale proposed by Rother,” said BPC Vice Chairman Steve Moore. “Rother’s allocation of new housing for Burwash is 52 homes. Nobody can understand how they arrived at this figure.” The Council has called on local MP Huw Merriman to back its efforts to question the basis of Burwash’s allocation.

BPC told Rother’s planners in a petition that the Strand Meadow site, known to villagers as Watercress Field, was honeycombed with natural springs, making building difficult. Plans to improve access via the Strand Meadow estate were inadequate. The design of the proposed homes was poor and failed to respect the ancient heritage of one of East Sussex’s most beautiful villages.

BPC set out its objections to the scheme following an Extraordinary general meeting (EGM) attended by over 60 residents in Burwash Village Hall on Monday, 6 August.

Local campaigners said local people needed housing they could afford and should not be priced out of the village.

“This development does nothing to provide homes to meet known local housing need,” said Robert Banks of Burwash: Save Our Fields From Concrete.

For further information and comment, contact:

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