From:

To: Local Plan (TWBC)

Subject: Allocations for H03 Horsmonden housing.

Date: 04 April 2024 12:42:48

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Dear Sir.

I am concerned about the allocations for Horsmonden (H03) in the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's submission to the local plan. As a long standing resident of the village I have taken an interest in this application and I would comment as follows:

- 1. The housing allocation for Horsmonden is clearly overstated as no allowance has been made for Bassetts Villas heritage setting allowance, Landscape Visual Impact Assessment and Old Station Garage. Consequently the housing allocation for Horsmonden is correctly 219 to 253, not 230 to 290 dwellings.
- 2. More importantly, from the perspective of a resident, is the glaring mismatch in timing. The submission to the Local Plan has brought the development of H02 and H03 forward from 2030/2032 to 2026/2028 in the latest iteration. Originally the development was timed to coincide with the new medical centre which will be needed to support the enlarged population. At present the wait for an appointment with our local surgery is 21days and it is clear that the surgery will not be able to accommodate the projected increase in population. Further the NHS has not indicated when the new facility will be provided but they seem still to be looking towards the middle to late 2030s for this project.
- 3. I therefore object to the Borough Council's proposal for both the number of houses allocated to Horsmonden and the timing of the development. I ask the assessor to do what can be done to ensure that any development is both appropriate to a village, and follows, not precedes, the provision of clearly necessary infrastructure.

Yours faithfully,

