



From Group Captain R H Middleton JP, BSc, MRAs, RAF(Retd),
Chairman, Attleborough Community Team

**2 The Old Orchard
Attleborough
Norfolk
NR17 2AX**

01953 451215

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Dear Councillor Nunn

Attached is a petition collected by the Attleborough Community Team (ACT) with over 3000 signatures from the people of Attleborough and surrounding area. The petition is asking for unsustainable development in the town to stop and is a clear signal that people are concerned about the future of their town. Since 2001, over 600 houses have been built or approved for construction in Attleborough, without any meaningful improvements to traffic congestion, infrastructure and employment opportunities, and there are some significant applications pending. Therefore ACT is seeking:

A commitment from all our elected representatives that the current shortfalls are addressed before any more significant development takes place.

A commitment that any action plans identify how the new development will contribute to the overall improvement for all residents.

Proper consultation on any proposals for the town and its surroundings.

It is clear from the comments that we have received from people that there is widespread concern about the plans to significantly increase the size of the town without clearly showing how existing infrastructure deficiencies are going to be resolved. Without the necessary improvements, the existing residents see no benefit from the having such a large number of new houses. There are also concerns about the on-going piecemeal developments taking place in the town and also unease about the process of consultation for the Attleborough and Snetterton Heath Area Action Plan (ASHAAP) – many are concerned that the questionnaire does not cover all the issues in the main document and that the questions are leading questions. The following is a small selection of comments which are typical of over 100 we have received so far:

*Attleborough being spoilt and has deteriorated over the last 25 to 30 years.
Traffic gridlock. No more housing but improved infrastructure to service existing
community*

Infrastructure improved and put in place before 10,000 more people

*Existing infrastructure deficient. Attleborough neglected compared to other
market towns. Town Centre disgraceful. HGV's a problem*

*Attleborough already ruined by over development. No money spent on
infrastructure. No demand for housing plenty for sale. Need jobs. Should we be
marching and demonstrating*

*Legacy of under funding compared to other areas, employment needed,
moderate expansion*

ACT will be making significant representation to the ASHAAP and I hope that our contributions will help to inform any decisions over the future of the town. We also welcome developments surrounding engagement with the Prince's Foundation and are grateful that the Council has agreed to explore possibilities.

There is no more important or urgent issue for the town than dealing effectively with the proposals for development put forward in the Core Strategy and the ASHAAP. They have the potential to irreversibly change the nature of the town and if we do not get new development right, future generations will rightly blame us. The response from our signature campaign has shown that people in the town share our concerns and we would like to work together to make sure that the people of Attleborough get the sustainable development that they deserve and want.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Middleton', written in a cursive style.

Richard Middleton