

Dear Sir

The Salisbury Civic Society has discussed, in detail, Wiltshire Council's new draft Local Plan and makes the following points:

1. A new settlement in south Wiltshire. John Glen supported this idea in his Journal column on March 4th, and it's one the Civic Society has long argued for. Salisbury cannot go on having its character damaged by more and more housing added on its outskirts, on sites which become increasingly inappropriate. If building on greenfield sites remains necessary, a new settlement, carefully positioned, could create a genuine new community, properly infrastructured, and a great chance for imaginative contemporary design.
2. New housing for Salisbury. The draft plan allocates about 600 houses to three greenfield sites on the edge of the city, with another 300 inside. If the ideal figure of zero for greenfield developments cannot yet be achieved, we believe that the site to the north of Downton road, with a damaging impact on views of the cathedral, should be abandoned. The 200 homes proposed here should be added to the number to be found in the existing built-up area.
3. Churchfields. We object to Wiltshire Council's abandonment of earlier proposals for housing here, and its statement that nothing can be achieved in this respect before 2036. Houses on part of the estate would reduce the scale of the current eyesore, and lessen heavy traffic needing to pass through the city.
4. Brownfield sites. The Civic Society would like the greatest possible focus on such sites. Churchfields is a prime example, and the Maltings could take many more than the 200 homes already allowed for once the current River Park project has reduced flood risk and opened up the way for developments around it.

The full version of the Society's response can be found on our website under Events – Salisbury: <https://bit.ly/2OUHBrz>

Peter Dunbar
Chair

www.salisburycivicsociety.org.uk