

SSDC Local Plan Examination In Public - Representation

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TO
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Subject

Question Five Household Statistics

Campaigners against the Yeovil Urban Extension and its location within the parish of East Coker have been making representations to the SSDC for years to the fact that the Council's figures and methodology for calculating house numbers were wrong. These representations have now been proved to be correct by the latest figures released last month by the ONS.

Which yet again proves that much of the data produced by the SSDC cannot be trusted, due to their totally biased approach to both the need and location for a Yeovil Urban Extension.

It is not surprising that the ONS has come to the conclusion that there is going to be a higher occupancy and therefore less need for housing within the district when you study the number of empty houses in the SSDC area, over 2,500 at the last count, and the number of planning permissions given in the last 12 months of which have not been started, over 3,000, Including a development for 850 houses at Thorne Lane, Yeovil, where after 3 years not a blade of grass has been disturbed (see photograph).



Throne Lane

The current world economy for the medium to long term future, will determine the economic growth of the UK and subsequently the local district. ALL the indicators show that growth, if at all, will be limited. The number of empty commercial properties in the area and land with approval for development, which for many years, stands undeveloped, are clear indicators of the lack of need for further availability.



Bunford Industrial development site

The Yeovil Urban Extension should not be allowed to proceed at all, and within the parish of East Coker because now the occupancy data, as defined by the ONS, has been increased the housing numbers within the area are dramatically reduced eliminating the need for an Urban Extension.

The halting of the SSDC's plans for East Coker will.....

.....save traffic chaos on Hendford Hill and the surrounding roads



Current traffic without an Urban Extension

....save congested parking within Yeovil Mr Foyne has said that the current parking availability is not enough to accommodate the traffic that will be generated by an Urban extension.



.....safeguard East Coker's Heritage



T S Eliot's East Coker



In my beginning is my end: In summertime
Houses live and tell, invisible, as scattered,
Are removed, destroyed, restored; or in some place
Is an open field, or a factory, or a big plane;
Old stone to-new building, old houses to new trees,
Old trees to others, and others to the north
Which is already bushy, like an avenue;
Bushes to grass, grass to leaf, leaf
House live and die there is a long time for living
And a time for the wind to break the seasonal pane
And to shake the scattered arms within a silent music.

In my beginning is my end. When the light falls
Across the open field, leaving the deep lane
Shutmost with hawthorn, dark in the afternoon;
Where you hear against a bank while a sun passes,
And the deep lane leads on in the direction

Into the village, in the electric heat
Intensified in a winter house the sultry light
Is absorbed, restorated, by green stones
The leaves map out the bright silence
Wait for the south cool.

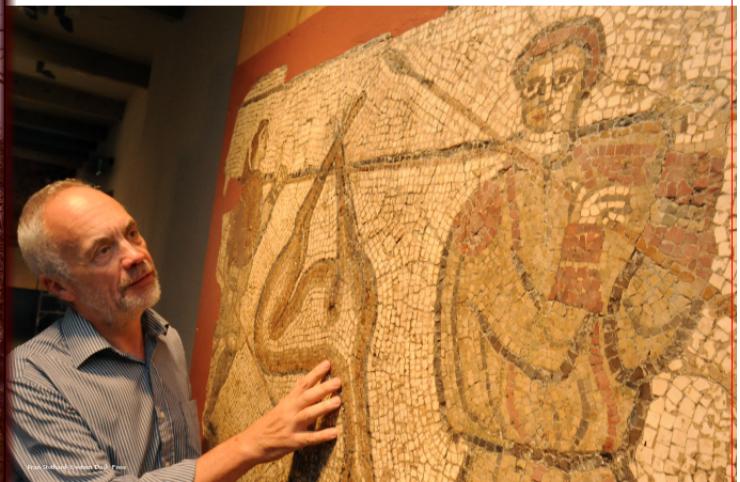
In that open field
If you do not come too close, if you do not come too close,
On a summer mid-night, you can hear the music
Of the small pipe and the little drum
And the three voices of the little birds
The association of man and nature
In drawings, sketching and painting—
A diagonal and crosswise accent
Two and two, necessary conjunction,
Holding who often the hand or the arm
Which is naturally crooked. Round and round the fire
Leaving the stones and the pot at its centre
Politically uniform or in many directions
Lifting heavy load in change about,
Earth load, team load, load in country north
Might of these living since under earth
Harrowing the corn, keeping time,
Holding the children when they sleep
The time of the season and the contemplation
The time of the coupling of man and woman
And that of beasts. Fast riding and riding,
Eating and drinking. Dung and death.

These guides, and comforters
Prepare the heart and others. Out at one the doors and
Windows and doors. In my beginning.

.....Safeguard East Coker's Roman Heritage



The Romans in East Coker

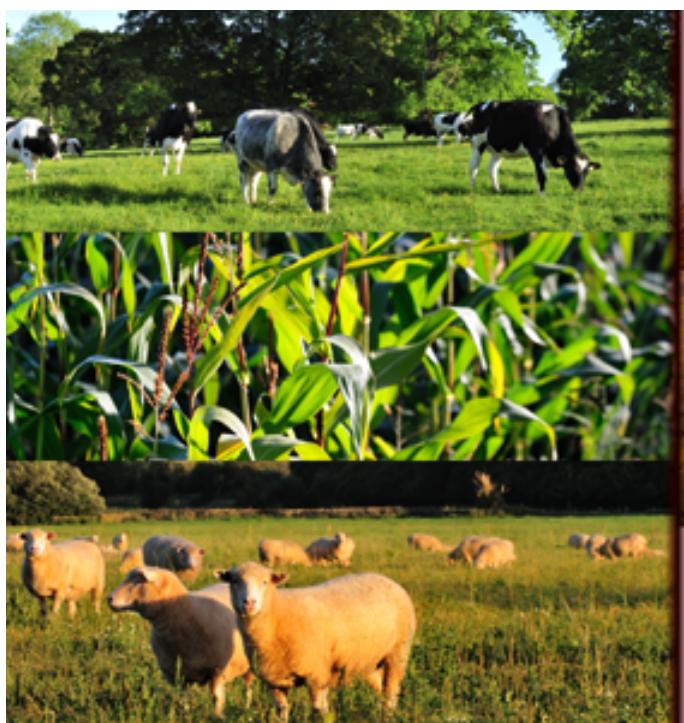


The remains of a Roman Villa were found in the fields around East Coker in the 18th century including a decorated mosaic floor. Later in 1820 a mid 4th century tessellated pavement was found and can now be seen in the Museum of Somerset in Taunton.

.....continue to provide the needs of the wider community with leisure and pleasure activities for so many people both local and from afar. Also providing a valuable source on income for the area.



.....allow East Coker to continue to provide food security and as required by the NPPF to protect the 'highest' grade land ie. Grade 1 land, which will be destroyed for ever in the East Coker area if this development is allowed to go ahead.



East Coker and food security



East Coker is surrounded by Grade 1 agricultural land, meaning that this land is recognized as being the most productive. Such land is vital to Britain's food security, as maximising the local production of food enables the country to minimise its reliance on imports.

.....meet the requirements of the NPPF to protect the settings of listed buildings in East Coker.



East Coker's
historic buildings
in their setting

A Landscape to Treasure

