

Bolsover Planning Committee
Bolsover District Council
The Arc, High Street
Clowne, Derbyshire
S43 4JY

Elmton with Creswell
Parish Council



Mr. Matthew Evans
Elmton with Creswell Parish Council
Events Centre
Elmton Road
Creswell
S80 4BH

Subject: Objection to the Proposed Bolsover Growth Plan on Behalf of Elmton with Creswell Parish Council

Dear Members of the Bolsover Planning Committee,

I write to you on behalf of Elmton with Creswell Parish Council to formally express our support for the residents of our parish in their objections to the proposed Bolsover Growth Plan. We have carefully considered the concerns raised by our community and believe that the proposed development poses significant threats to the sustainability, heritage, and environmental well-being of our area. As the elected representatives of Elmton with Creswell, we stand firmly with our residents in opposing this plan.

Sustainability Concerns

The proposed growth plan does not align with sustainable development principles, as outlined in both national and local planning policies. The area currently lacks sufficient infrastructure to accommodate the scale of development proposed. Local road networks are already under considerable strain, and the increased traffic congestion resulting from new developments will exacerbate safety risks and environmental pollution.

Additionally, there are significant concerns regarding public services, including healthcare, education, and emergency services. The proposed growth plan does not provide adequate provisions for additional GP surgeries, schools, and other essential services, which are already struggling to meet current demand. Without proper investment in these critical areas, the plan risks negatively impacting the quality of life for both existing and future residents.

Roman Archaeological Heritage

Elmton with Creswell is home to a wealth of historical and archaeological assets, including significant remnants of Roman settlements. The proposed development

sites encroach upon areas of archaeological importance, posing a serious risk of irreversible damage to heritage sites. The Roman heritage of our parish is an irreplaceable cultural resource, contributing to the identity of our community and attracting visitors interested in historical tourism. Any large-scale development must take these concerns into account and be subject to rigorous archaeological assessments before proceeding.

Environmental Concerns

The growth plan also presents substantial environmental risks, particularly in relation to the loss of green space, biodiversity, and air quality. Many of the proposed development areas are currently greenfield sites, which provide vital ecological habitats for wildlife. The destruction of these areas would lead to habitat fragmentation, a decline in biodiversity, and disruption to the natural balance of our local environment.

Furthermore, the environmental impact of increased carbon emissions from additional housing and traffic must not be overlooked. The government's commitment to net-zero carbon emissions necessitates a more thoughtful approach to development—one that prioritizes green infrastructure, sustainable transport, and carbon-reducing initiatives. The current proposal fails to adequately address these critical environmental factors, making it incompatible with both local and national sustainability targets.

Conclusion

In light of the significant concerns raised above, Elmton with Creswell Parish Council urges the Bolsover Planning Committee to reconsider the proposed Growth Plan. We request that further consultations be held with local residents, heritage experts, and environmental bodies to explore alternative strategies that align with sustainable development goals while preserving the unique historical and environmental character of our parish.

We trust that the Planning Committee will give due consideration to the views of the community and act in the best interests of both current and future generations. We would welcome the opportunity to engage further on this matter and look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Evans', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. Matthew Evans
Locum Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Elmton with Creswell Parish Council