29 May 2012

Ribble Valley Borough Council
Core Strategy Consultation
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
Lancashire
BB7 2RA

RIBLE VALLEY CORE STRATEGY

I am writing to RVBC regarding the proposed building of an additional 1,670 houses in Clitheroe. Clitheroe makes up 25% of the Ribble Valley population, therefore, Clitheroe should not have to absorb more than 25% of the planned new development (this equates to 1000 houses). Our village schools are closing through lack of children would they then not benefit by having small developments?

Whilst, I understand the need for future development including new houses in Clitheroe I am very concerned there is no sound infrastructure to cope with the effects of building 1,670 additional homes. I have listed a few of my concerns below:-

1) There are no guarantees water and wastewater services are to be provided. Failure to provide for this substantial development will effect the quality of life for our existing community.
2) New developments of substantial size will put pressure on existing refuse collections
3) No confirmation Clitheroe Hospital will be upgraded. No plans to increase G.P. practices.
4) There is no Transport/Travel plan to support the extra residents. Whalley Road is a DEFRA ‘Quality Air Management Zone’ due to high levels of Nitrogen Dioxide. There are no plans to increase car parks for the extra cars. Parking is already a problem in Clitheroe.
5) There is no money available to upgrade our leisure facilities i.e Roefield Swimming pool or a new sports centre.
6) What about education? Have we enough places in our schools? LCC are only able to provide details of available funding until 2014. Land at Standen Estate will be available to build a primary school but there are NO plans to build one.

This plan is UNSOUND on the basis of Education, Health Service, Transport, Leisure Facilities and Utilities.

Yours faithfully