

With regard to my previous submission I would like to add the following to my objections for the proposed settlement at 'Wisloe' contained in the SDC Local Plan.

References I have made to the Emerging Strategy are to be taken as the document produced in May 2019.

Conservation

SDC's Ecological Appraisal recognise that there have been sightings of protected species and concluded that further in depth surveys need to be conducted. Such sightings include long eared bats, dormice and european nightjar. There have also been sightings recorded by the British Trust for Ornithology of curlew and lapwing. These are considered 'red data' listed birds and require large open spaces to roost and feed.

It is important that the recommended in depth survey is conducted prior to this land being included in the Local Plan.

Why are SDC considering building on land which is an essential wildlife area ?

Land Classification

I am very concerned that SDC are happy to accept the reclassification of the land carried out by a company employed by the Ernest Cooke Trust and Gloucestershire County Council, who are the developers of the land. Natural England have been classifying this land since the 1930s as Grade 2-'very good agricultural land and therefore should not be considered for development', yet when ECT and GCC wish to develop the land a company employed by them downgrade the land to 3b.

There is real concern amongst residents regarding this down grading and there is a feeling that the land should be resurveyed by an independent company .

Are SDC happy to determine the use of this land based on such a reclassification by a company employed by the developers ?