

## Burgh and Tuttington Parish Council

**Comments on Planning Application 20222089:** Erection of 255 dwellings, 90-unit extra care/independent living scheme, land for community sustainable transport hub, vehicular accesses, landscaping, public open space and associated infrastructure.

1. Our submission regarding planning application 20222089 is to **OBJECT** on the basis that the development represents an unacceptable risk of pollution to our parish of Burgh and Tuttington and more widely to the natural environment of the river Bure and the Broads.
2. The Bure is a rare and prized chalk stream and a primary feeder river for the Broads National Park, a wetland of international importance. Any risk to this environment from development must be considered of primary importance. The planning application for 255 new dwellings is only part of a proposed programme of development on the east side of Aylsham. Sewage from Aylsham and any new developments is treated by the Anglian Water Recycling Centre (AWRC) on the east side of the town. Treated material enters the river Bure in our parish.
3. The Burgh and Tuttington Parish Council took part in the GNLP Regulation 18 consultation and subsequently objected at the Regulation 19 stage when this site of an additional 255 dwellings was added without consultation. We provided evidence at that stage citing an independent report by Create Consulting Engineers Ltd (2018) that the AWRC had capacity for treating waste from only 100 extra dwellings.
4. In one of the submissions with this planning application, namely the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy Document, Anglian Water admit that the AWRC “...currently does not have capacity to treat the flows from your (the) development site.” (Page 515, Appendix Q, p4). Yet in the same document (Page 20, sections 5.4 and 5.5) Anglian Water claim that the AWRC “...currently has capacity to treat the flows from the development site.” This ambiguous statement can be interpreted to mean that there is sufficient capacity for the current site but only before development begins. Whatever the intention, these apparently contradictory statements suggest a level of confusion in the ability of the Aylsham AWRC to cope with the additional flows from this and any future developments.
5. There has been much publicity in the national press of late about releases of untreated sewage into our river systems and the coast. This, combined with an over-stretched policing body - the Environment Agency - means that all due diligence is essential at the planning stage where new developments raise the risk of untreated sewage entering the rivers and the Broads, a problem made more critical as predicted climate change increases the flood and release risk yet further. According to the Rivers Trust, the AWRC reported 47 storm overflow spill events into the Bure lasting a total of 95 hours in 2021.
6. We believe that the planners must consider more closely a requirement for the installation of on-site sewage treatment plant(s), and/or satisfy themselves that there are specific and detailed plans to expand the capacity of the AWRC to cope with the extra flows of foul waste water generated by expected increases to the population of Aylsham.

**Parish Clerk, 02 February 2023**