

Building a 21,000 home New Town on Enfield's Green Belt will not solve the affordable housing crisis. There are better solutions! Thank you for joining the campaign!

Dear Supporters

Please join Enfield RoadWatch on Saturday, April 18 to enjoy, explore and appreciate two historic and environmental aspects of Enfield's character and charm that are threatened by the proposed 21,000 Crews Hill & Chase Park New Town. There will be lots of events and activities, and a chance to send your own message to the decision makers [action items are below the day's schedule.]

The Enfield RoadWatch booth will be set up outside Thompson's on Cattlegate Road from 10am to 4pm. Please come and say hello and we'll be able to brief you about the New Town, give advice on countryside walks and introduce you to a Crews Hill you may not have known was there!

We have lots of suggested activities for you to enjoy, but our timed events are:

- **10am** walk from the Whitewebbs Park cafe through ancient woodland to Crews Hill
- Crews Hill Golf Club open house **11am-4pm**
- Timed and limited tickets to visit award-winning Theobald Farmhouse Garden **11am-4pm**

More information on all these and more below. We are still updating the events, so please check back.

You can see the key locations for the day on the map below. The 456 bus will bring you to Crews Hill and you can also get there by train on the Hertford Loop Line to Crews Hill Station. Otherwise, there are car parks throughout Crews Hill associated with the various businesses. It may be crowded so please use public transport, if you can.

Celebrate Crews Hill!

- **Visit** Crews Hill Golf Club from 11am, where you will be made welcome by the members and staff and can enjoy a free tea or coffee. Council Leader, Ergin Erbil, recently described the golf course as devoid of wildlife, restricted from public access, not Green Belt and supported by only 20 members. You'll be able to see for yourselves if any of that is true. Parking on site or a short walk from the Enfield RoadWatch booth. Handouts at the booth.

- **Visit** Theobald's Farmhouse's award-winning, 2 acre organic Arts and Crafts garden. **Entrance is by a timed numbered ticket ONLY. Tickets can be picked up from the Enfield RoadWatch booth on the day. No advance bookings and no direct bookings with the garden**. **£10 donation requested**.

- **Explore** Culver Garden Centre near Crews Hill Station – home to 13 very varied businesses, you'll be surprised by what you find there.

- **Explore** Browns Garden Village on Theobalds Park Road where there is an extensive antiques emporium, alongside a crafts shop, dog grooming and more.

- **Satisfy your curiosity** about reptiles at Crews Hill Reptiles, fish at Kingfisher Aquatics or Maidenhead Aquatics, or birds at The Enfield Bird Centre or London Bird Shop.

- **Stroll and socialise** - there are over 30 plant-related businesses to see and 10 or more cafes for a break.

Celebrate Enfield's Countryside!

The proposed Crews Hill & Chase Park New Town would cover 884 hectares of Enfield's Green Belt, only 10% of which has existing buildings. The rest is rolling farmland, the remnants of the historic Enfield Chase. Although much of this countryside is still actively farmed, it is criss-crossed by a network of footpaths that allows the public to experience an open rural setting that is rare in London. Some are easily accessible from Crews Hill, such as the footpath through the golf course or the path off Strayfield Road to Rectory Farm. At **10am Walking in Whitewebbs** will be leading a guided walk from the cafe at Whitewebbs Park, near Beggars Hollow, through ancient woodland [home of the controversially felled Whitewebbs Oak] to Crews Hill. An opportunity to see, first hand, the site of Tottenham Hotspur's proposed women's football academy.

If you'd like to plan a longer day out in Enfield's beautiful countryside, here are three suggestions. Click on the link to download the walk leaflet

Merryhills Way
Three Valleys Walk
Three Stations Walks

Other walks in Enfield are available on The Enfield Society website.

Print-outs of all three walks will be available at our booth.

Send a message to decision makers!

- **Social media** - this is huge! We know that most of you who come on April 18 will already be opposed to the new town. It's very important that the decision-makers in the Council, the Greater London Assembly [GLA] and the Government know the level of that opposition and the reasons why you are opposed.

  We are asking everyone to post on social media platforms [primarily over the weekend but before and after too] using the hashtags **#CrewsHill #PlaceBreaking #StopTheNewTown and #NoEvidenceNoNewTown** [Of course you can add any of your own too].

  Some suggestions:

  a] post a photo of a place that will be lost [scenery, a business, a view, etc.] and use a caption such as 'This is too important to lose'

  b] post a photo of yourself holding up a sign - you can do this at the booth where we will have some ready but also paper for you to write your own message

  c] If you have time - and nimble fingers - here are some longer, more focused messages you can use.

- We expect a lot of the **candidates** who are running in the May 7 local council elections to come at some point during the day. This will give you an opportunity to ask them in person what they think about the new town and how they would address the affordable housing crisis if the new town is stopped.

  Of the several parties who are fielding candidates in this election, only Labour is advocating for the new town. You can learn more about the election here. This is a critical election for Enfield's future, so please make sure you are registered to vote and cast your vote thoughtfully.

- Along with other campaigns who are participating in the Day of Action around the country, we will have a **letter to the Prime Minister** for you to sign. Please make sure to stop by the booth to sign the letter, which we will then deliver. The letter will also be made available on the website by April 17 so you will be able to email it to the PM, if you can't attend the event on April 18.

Our event is part of the **National Day of Action for Nature, Parks and Green Spaces**, which is being organised by the Community Planning Alliance in cooperation with CPRE – the Countryside Charity. The purpose is simple: to demonstrate, visibly and collectively, that people everywhere care deeply about the natural world and want to see it protected and restored. Events will take place all over the country.

Why are we taking part in the National Day of Action?

Because we think it's important that people understand what is at stake if the proposed new town goes ahead and what could be lost – forever.

Explore our website to find out why we think the new town should not proceed and why there are much better solutions to London's housing crisis. We expect transparent, evidence-based decision-making from our leaders and we all need to let them know that we won't settle for anything less. How? **Cast your vote in the local elections on Thursday, May 7.**

We would like to thank Thompsons for hosting our event. This family-run business has been a mainstay in Crews Hill since 1948. Now run by the third generation, the company is a major local employer and one which would prefer to stay right where it is.

Action for Enfield's Future



We could lose 884 hectares of scenic and valued countryside, about one-third of Enfield's Green Belt. Farms and fields - GONE! Garden centres - GONE! A heritage golf course - GONE! Enfield's history, nature and local character SWEPT AWAY!

Our evidence-based arguments against the proposed Crews Hill & Chase Park New Town

Rather than boosting economic growth the new town will destroy established businesses, many hundreds of jobs and a vibrant commercial attraction. Read more.

The new town will not only destroy 800+ hectares of farmland and open countryside, it will also remove wildlife habitat, climate resilience, food security and more. Look especially at **WHAT PROTECTION IS THERE FOR NATURE IN ENFIELD** and **PLANETARY BOUNDARIES**. Read more

These are only some of our arguments against the new town. See them all....

The threat - in brief

The proposed 21,000 home new town is likely to stretch from the M25 to Oakwood, covering one-third of Enfield's Green Belt countryside, including all of Crews Hill. There are better solutions to London's housing crisis, and the proposals would almost certainly cause more harm than good.

There are similar threats all over the country, but none more so than right here.



May 7th, Local Council Elections

The Community Planning Alliance has called for a National Day of Action on Saturday, April 18 in the run-up to the May 7 local elections to make clear to politicians how much people value nature, parks and green spaces.

Although we are not party-political, we believe this is an election issue that everyone needs to consider before they vote in the upcoming elections. We are distributing 25,000 leaflets explaining the issues [copy attached] The leaflet focuses on the misinformation and lack of transparency that has permeated the whole new town process as well as the damage that could be caused by Crews Hill & Chase Park New Town.

These local council elections are critical to the future of Enfield. The results could have long-lasting repercussions, so we encourage you to read the different parties' manifestos and vote wisely. We will try to post them all here.

Enfield Dispatch will be following the campaigns and election. Here is their preview explaining why the local elections are so important and so different this time. And another interesting article - Has Enfield Labour kept its promises? - Enfield Dispatch



Local Plan Examination update

Government Planning Inspector, Steven Lee, has conducted two more days of hearings (virtually) on March 18 and 19. (These are now available on the Council's YouTube channel after the sessions). The main modifications to the draft local plan should then be finalised by Enfield Council and those modifications will be subject to public consultation. So, no final decisions have yet been made. We will keep you updated. More information here

Action For Enfield's Future is a non-political community group with members from across Enfield including representatives from Enfield Climate Action Forum (EnCaf) and Enfield RoadWatch.

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