

Campus/CMC Survey

174 responses in total

36 yes, 137 no – someone didn't answer the yes or no question.

Out of the 164 people who left their postcodes – 145 of them were IP19 8 ones, there were also postcodes from IP19 9 which is to the east of Halesworth and IP19 0 which is to the west. There was one NR postcode and one IP17 postcode.

Comments against:

All the green space lost for ever. The town needs all these pitches now we must not lose them.

I believe the proposed developments are not appropriate for the original intentions of that site. The buildings are totally out of keeping in an area that is mainly one or one and a half storey private dwellings. The very idea that a complex for the elderly would be an ideal next-door neighbour to a sport facility with noise flood lights and all that goes with it is utterly insane. Infrastructure for such a scene is non-existent with the nearest hospital around 25 miles away. There are many more points I could raise but I realise some of these have already been voiced.

Wrong project, not good for wildlife, a ghetto for the elderly, if they can afford it.

The plans are not what the people of Halesworth ever wanted. The old school field should not be built on, once lost, it's lost forever. The suggested heights of the buildings is completely out of character as the vast majority of the surrounding properties, on Bungay Road, Norwich Road and Harrisons Lane are single storey bungalows. There are so many things which I believe are wrong about these plans but my overriding observations are that they don't comply with the C2 specification which would have a much more 'community' approach, maybe even coming good on the pledge to offer NHS beds. The idea that you would build elderly accommodation absolutely right next to outdoor sports facilities, open 08.00-22.00, separated only by a 3metre high, sound proof fence and requiring the accommodation to have mechanical ventilation in order that windows don't need to be opened, thereby letting all the noise in, is simply preposterous.

Halesworth should be looking to the future of all its residents with the impetus on attracting younger people to live and work there. It needs affordable housing for all. It also needs to attract professionals in healthcare to live in the community. By developing another facility for the elderly, it is in danger of becoming a geriatric hub putting increased pressure on an already struggling GP surgery. The town lacks an effective community centre, sporting facilities which this plan doesn't address.

We are at risk of becoming a retirement town, thus alienating and deterring young people and families, also our current medical infrastructure would not be able to support it properly, and the gas plans are against the government guidance.

No guaranteed final plan. All the things the town really needs are not set in stone

Need a swimming pool incorporated.

- 1) A totally outlandish over development of a restricted site, for accommodation that is not needed. Halesworth is in danger of becoming a 'Geriatric Ghetto' for the incomes of the overheated Home Counties.

- 2) The sports facilities proposed are not fit for purpose and would cause many environmental and social problems with the proposed development.
- 3) This site was gifted to the town upon the closure of a well-supported middle school, so far, its re-development appears to have been a series of promises with very little practicality at great cost.
- 4) Please reject this proposed plan

We need affordable housing for the young people not the old.

The Halesworth/Holton population is already 41% over 60s! Besides which, post-Covid, most care/nursing/sheltered residences have vacancies. Also, the medical services can't cope with more dicky tickers. Building on green fields is inappropriate and about to be banned, thankfully. The Castlemeadow development is more suitable for an urban setting than a small market town. These comments are for myself and my husband.

I would like to see more development in this town for young people, as was once promised, but then never came to fruition. As someone who is likely to be starting a family in the near future, the lack of things for young people to do makes me feel that young people and families will be driven from the town because of the seeming favour towards residential and care development. Give us the sports facilities we were once promised, give us more clubs for children and young people. Even at 30 I struggle to find any clubs/groups for me to do and with the possibility of starting a family, I want to raise that family in a town that offers children activities and opportunities and unfortunately, I don't see that being a possibility if we keep favouring care facilities over youth facilities, which is unfortunate for a town which could be so much more. Also, the amount of wildlife on the old middle school site should be looked and protected. Squirrels, bees, butterflies, all sorts of wildlife was there last time I went for a walk there and it would be unfortunate to see their habitat get demolished.

We need something for the whole community, like a sports and health centre.

Not needed, building on the only remaining green space in the town, junior football teams have had to leave the town due to lack of pitches, 3G pitches will be too expensive for juniors to use, the only grass pitch allowed for is for ruby only.

Agree with town council

Object

The Castlemeadow plans are not in keeping with the area. It is an over-development of the site, something with at least half the footprint would be more acceptable and the design should be much less overbearing.

This is not in keeping with the area. There are enough care homes in Halesworth already. We do not want it to become a retirement village pushing the young out of the area. We need sports facilities for all age groups a lot more than another care home especially of the planned size which would be a blight on the land destroying so much green space.

I don't feel they offer adequate sports facilities on the land for the town. Obviously, everyone would like a swimming pool and sports Hall / Gym, then I expect you could build whatever you liked.

As stated in one of the objectors letters this town is destined to become a retirement town if all the proposed building works in Halesworth are approved.

The town needs better facilities more than it needs this development.

We need to support the young people of Halesworth, both my children have moved away as there is nothing for them in Halesworth.

The land was promised for sport and in particular a swimming not for developers to make a profit building retirement home in a totally unsuitable location.

Absolutely no confidence in Campus to deliver anything. This should be totally about sports facilities, not facilities for the elderly.

Residents of the town and of the surrounding area have not been consulted in any meaningful way since the decision was made that the former Middle School's playing fields are to be built on, and so lost for ever. How can that be right?

Too big/tall building on Norwich Road. Should stay as open sport provision. Last good flat land for sport

The town already feels like God's waiting room.

We do not need more pressure on our already stretched local healthcare system, are they supplying more GP's for our surgery? Absolutely ludicrous plan for something the town doesn't just not need, but cannot manage.

Both are unnecessary and will not provide what residents need or wish to have.

Too many facilities the town already has. We also are not getting things the town has asked for as high priority (swimming pool etc)

The town was given the land and it had playing fields and a gym hall that was only built in 1995, that's all been destroyed and now they wish to sell it off to build old folk accommodation and a playing field with the promise of more to come, it's a disgraced the loss of such a space shouldn't be allowed to happen

Need swimming pool

No need for more care homes when there are not enough carers in the area

Infrastructure and health services are inadequate for this kind of development. We need mixed development with young people and families in mind.

I have been in a position lately where we needed nursing home care not care home nursing home, I am currently traveling 70-mile round trip to visit as there was no provision locally, please take note if there are all these houses for elderly being, proposed would it not be better to think this through we greatly miss the hospital and Rayner Green! But it seems we were bull dozed into it and notice of the local Populace was not listened to I went to a meeting in, Beccles about the closure of the hospital and it was quite evident that they would go ahead we were told at that meeting that the hospital would not close till the new facility was built! How many years now?' and the place hasn't been started but the hospital is CLOSED how can we have confidence in what we are being told? We can't! Utterly disgraceful and deceitful back to the drawing board me thinks! We need more medical provision in Halesworth and no one could say that Rayner Green was an old building why close the day Centre?

This land should not be used for a private health care facility.

Sell Dairyhill site move all sports to middle school site then castle meadow right next door to doctors etc

Ill thought-out proposals. Locating a rugby pitch next to a care home? really??? Local health services already not coping with ageing demographic, let's increase it further!

No way should the only remaining green space be used for an old people's home, most of the junior football teams have had to leave the town due to lack of green space, the town is getting bigger and will need even more space for sports, all the home will bring is more old people to the area, it's also far to overpowering.

The proposed development is far too big in overall size and especially in the overbearing height of the buildings proposed. They will look completely out of place in this old town centre and overbearing and dominating. The use of this space for this purpose is subject to much controversy and many feel not done transparently. Also, it has to be taken into account the sheer number of retirement developments currently planned and under consideration for Halesworth. There appears little or no provision for first time buyer/affordable homes to either rent or purchase.

There is not a need for a care home in Halesworth, there is already a care home which has empty beds. We live opposite the field and the building would over hugely shadow our home, reduce light and significantly increase the traffic on our road and in and out of our small town. The town has recently had an increase in a younger population with a new deli and shops opening, but a new care home would increase the elderly population in the town. The field is currently used for sport and walking, which is fantastic and the only open field in the upper side of Halesworth.

I cannot see the need for another care home in Halesworth, let alone one of this scale. Halesworth has so much potential, this major development appears to be a move firmly in the wrong direction.

The Apollo centre should be saved.

The Campus plans will blight those living around the area with noise and light pollution, traffic movements, traffic congestion and fumes. They will have an adverse effect on the ecology and wildlife. Halesworth has consistently said it wants a swimming pool as priority, but the Campus has persistently made this the last part of the plan. The Castlemeadow proposals are over-developed, too dense, overbearing in relation to and out of keeping with the surrounding area and Halesworth. The plans are clearly designed to make enormous profit for the developers; this is a profound betrayal of Halesworth by the Campus.

Halesworth needs sports facilities, outdoor spaces and a community hub. It does not need a sprawling urban care centre which will put strain on the town's already overburdened health care facilities. The Campus proposal originally offered the people of Halesworth sports facilities, including a swimming pool, these latest plans have no resemblance to them. Where are the innovative plans for sustainability in this project? Gas heating & plastic pitches! If I had a vote I would vote – object

We need sports facilities and a swimming pool

It's not needed ...we would need more docs to cope, we haven't got enough now!!

I am principally concerned with environmental aspects. a) flooding risk b) 3G pitches are not to be encouraged c) gas fired heating in ship meadow I don't see how East Suffolk DC with its commitment to reducing carbon emissions and biodiversity could allow b and c

The sports facilities are needed in Halesworth but we do not need another care home! The GP surgery is at breaking point with only two doctors for the whole town, we are miles away from any of the three main hospitals, the young families of Halesworth need houses so we can keep the town alive! We are not a retirement zone for those who want to be close to Southwold!

We don't need homes for old people we need them for new time buyers!!!

The town does need any more retirement housing, it needs facilities for the younger generation. The surgery and dentist can't cope with the demand as it is, this would add extra strain on them. The space can be perfectly used for clubs and groups. It would be a perfect position to relocate the school to as it is growing and is outgrowing its current position.

Should be reserved for swimming pool and sports complex only

Cutlers Hill Surgery overwhelmed already. Several care homes, supported living facilities already in the town.

This was not what the town originally wanted.

Site should be used for leisure and services for health and wellbeing of young people.

Sports facilities urgently needed not more old folks!

Halesworth does not need a private care home. It needs sports facilities to support the many new homes that will for certain attract a more younger age group that will have nowhere!

We need the infrastructure in Halesworth. We have a surgery with almost no doctors. We have dentists with no dentists. The town needs updating before we bring in more elderly people.

We need facilities for the People to have rehab following surgery We need facilities for the younger generation and those with additional needs We need opportunities for the younger people to own their own houses - affordable housing

The town needs sports facilities more than a care home.

Enough care home in Halesworth could be used for better things

It was promised a sport complex not more houses and having all the space it would be great for a big leisure centre

Halesworth really needs a sports facility or something for the youngsters.

The promise of sports facilities was the reason the Campus came into being. The lack of funding meant they sold out to the highest bidder to put something in place i.e., a care home. It was never in the original plan and never asked for and would never serve any benefit to the people of Halesworth.

I'm worried about Halesworth becoming more of a monoculture, rather than a mixed age and culture community. Also, we don't have the health and social care infrastructure to support the plans.

GP Surgery cannot cope with what we have at the moment. Flood and drainage work need looking at. Not enough Care staff to work the area

More of the green site should be saved, the youth centre should be given funding by the care home to build a new venue, up to date costs, debts etc should be made public.

Green space for adults/kids' football is minimal already in Halesworth and you'll be taking away what we have left

More affordable rental properties required for local working people

Too many old people already

It is outrageous that we lose another asset, the Apollo Centre, after people gave their own time to keep it running free for years and with no mention of a replacement. Further naive suggestions, windows that are not to be opened! With any of these developments and facilities, are we able to find the professional staff required without putting any strain on the existing stretched town facilities.

It's such a shame that half the land has to be sold to fund this, we would be for the campus if it wasn't tied to Castle care home being built

We don't need any more care homes, they can't staff the ones we do have, we need things to keep our young people wanting to live here

Not enough amenities exist already especially for the younger sect.

We do not need more care facilities when we do not have the other services to support this such as district nurses, doctors and dentists. We need more here for our younger generation like proper sport facilities.

We need a full sports activity centre, outside sport courts and pitches, we also need inside sports hall for badminton and 5 a side football and a swimming pool for all the people of Halesworth

The care home is too big, not appropriate because of the lack of facilities we have in Halesworth.

I think a Care home should be in a quieter location and it will be too noisy next to a sports facility. Young people shouting at sports facility may use language that old people find distasteful. If the Apollo Centre is to be demolished then alternative facilities for a youth centre should be provided. Since this application has been put there have been other planning applications for housing for the elderly in the town.

No infrastructure in place, we need more Dr's a supermarket and dentists already!!!

Town Council minutes show thorough consideration and highlight significant areas requiring further development. Approval in current state could have an extremely detrimental impact on town and environment

Be nice to have something for the ppl of the town who don't play sport. Like a pool and gym

The land could be put to far better use - something that could actually benefit the young families of the town. Not something that brings older residents into town from far away.

Don't think our town facilities like the doctor's surgery could cope with it.

Halesworth should not become a retirement town provision should be made for LOCAL born and bred people who cannot now afford to live here and sports facilities are urgently needed.

I think the older generation are adequately catered for. with housing. NO more please. The site was a school and think it should be used for young people. I am an oldie myself so not just sour grapes.

The removal of the Apollo centre is scandalous without a replacement. Facilities for Halesworth teams should take precedence over other towns teams. The care home facility is to overbearing for the site

This has been a farce from start to finish

If retirement residences are needed in the Town there are better places to locate them, which are more accessible to existing facilities. However, bringing more people into Town with our GP surgery at risk is downright irresponsible. The sports facilities are totally out of step with what the Town wants. The Campus Trustees are supposed to be custodians of the land on behalf of the Town's people, but they act as if we are beholden to them and their pre-determined agenda. Given all the concerns around plastics, and diminishing biodiversity covering the land with a plastic pitch is immoral. Additionally, I think it will become a burden for future generations when the cost of maintenance and replacement will have to be met. Maybe it will then be destroyed like the previous swimming pool. The Town Council should be given the site on behalf of the Town, and they should facilitate providing some form of swimming facility (even if 'just' an outdoor pool for use in the spring/summer only), and keep the rest of the land open as pitches. I don't believe in coincidences, and the fact that the Jan 2019 Campus roadshow was just prior to Goldson's District Council election campaign, and this year's original planning application was just before his County Council election campaign demonstrated this is all about his ego. The Town Council should formally ask for him to step aside so this stops being a political football, and put in someone who actually cares for the Town.

I agree with the council on points of refusal

Old and young don't go together.

No need to build on green space . Leave the grass for sports pitches with tree planting and footpath access.

No need for one put the swimming pool there

Because we are losing nearly all the green space for ever the entire site must be handed over to the control of ESDC. For them to invest on the site that's why we pay rates.

We need more doctors not another care home we have two already + two assisted living accommodations, what about affordable housing for the younger generation

There are far too many promises of what we may get regarding sporting facilities, dependent on sales of this and that, and particular additional funding which is by no means certain. To me, it's all a smoke screen for their main motive, which is the building of a care home which nobody wants. The Campus started with the dream of much needed sporting facilities for the Town, now it seems, it's as distant as ever. In the meantime, we could have been utilising a perfectly good sports hall, but someone in their wisdom decided to raze it

The land value at 900k for the site is greatly under valued to what's going to be built on the site

There is already enough care facilities in the town

Halesworth's medical and care infrastructure is inadequate for the current population, let alone the increased demand arising from the Castlemeadow Care plans. The buildings do not meet the need to move to a zero carbon economy. There appears to be no replacement for the Apollo Youth Centre.

Inadequate sports facilities. Land should be used to benefit town

To many homes for older people instead of building better sports facilities and cheaper homes..

I agree with the town councils reasons for refusal.

Totally inappropriate for the Town.

I wholly agree with everything said by the council, regarding the reasons why it should (rightly) be rejected.

Comments For: 20

Extra sports facilities and swimming pool plus more places for our local elderly population and extra employment must be good for our town which is expanding every year.

facilities for young people desperately needed in Halesworth

The sports facilities are needed for the town

Let's get it started

The town needs more sports facilities and have been saying so for years. The last exhibition from Campus looks the same as the others we have seen. What's changed. And no more Patrick Stead so a nursing home is also good to have

The town definitely needs these facilities

I simply cannot understand the opposition to this proposal as it clearly will deliver much needed sports provision and significant community infrastructure. These opportunities do not come by frequently so I am surprised it meets with such negativity. I do not agree with the Town Council's reasons for rejecting the application as I believe the town needs the Campus development and that can only be delivered with the Castle Meadow Care development. The next generation of the town needs better sports and leisure facilities, Campus will deliver this. It's a simple case of yes yes yes for me, I want the Campus project and therefore I hope the Castle Meadow care development happens to enable this.

Halesworth needs to progress and not stay in the dark ages

It has been worked on and wanted for many years now and the objections by the council were superficial and poorly thought through. The Council should embrace the venture and take the lead in making it work at long last. By rejecting on nit-picking, spurious grounds they have done the town no favours. The Council that likes to say NO!

It is the only way forward if the town is to have its own sports facilities. They will be excellent next to the skills centre and will integrate well with services for all ages living in the town - currently there are very few. The swimming pool will be great if there's sufficient funding and support from the District and Town Council

Long overdue

Hurry up!

Sports facilities etc greatly needed for our youngsters

It creates more employment for Halesworth area and more sports facilities for us all whatever age.

A great addition to the town. Please go ahead ASAP.

The Town needs both these facilities

Stop living in the past and look at the opportunity as it is now. What is realistic and sustainable for Halesworth rather than argue over maybes and what ifs. This opportunity will be lost and there will be nothing for the community of Halesworth.

We want sports facilities for everyone in and around Halesworth. Let's hope that more than 52 residents who visited the recent exhibition complete this survey.

Successive analyses and reports for East Suffolk have evidenced the deficit of playing pitches in Halesworth. These developments will go some way to address the deficit, and are fully in line with the Waveney District Local Plan adopted in 2019. The Town Council's opposition to gaining two extra pitches for its residents at no cost to itself is inexplicable in rational terms.

The site could benefit the community instead with sports and other clubs being held on the site.