

Parish chairman and district councillors speak out

# New homes destroying my village, says Ted



TED MOLLOY

WHEATLEY is being destroyed as a rural village by a massive increase in housing developments, say leading local councillors.

Parish council chairman Mr Ted Molloy is calling on villagers to attend a special meeting to discuss the future of Wheatley.

The meeting, to be held at The Merry Bells in Wheatley High Street, on Wednesday August 5, is vital for local people, according to Mr Malloy.

His view that Wheatley is expanding too quickly are shared by South Oxfordshire district coun-

By DAVID CHADWICK

cillors Mr Bryan Fonge and Mr Norman Bowley.

Mr Fonge and Mr Bowley successfully blocked a planning application, made to the district council's north area planning committee, for seven flats on land in Old London Road, Wheatley.

## Overloaded

Mr Fonge said: "We have already approved 90 new homes in the village.

"Another 100 are to be built when some of the village's industries relocate into London

Road and free development land. "We seem to have lost control over developments in Wheatley. The whole situation is getting out of hand."

Mr Bowley told the planning committee meeting: "Wheatley is getting ridiculously overloaded."

The planning application which was turned down by councillors was for flats as an extension of an existing building, comprising 23 homes in Old London Road, Wheatley.

Mr Molloy, who has lived in Wheatley for 28 years, said he had 100 per cent backing for the views of Mr Fonge and Mr Bowley.

He told the Oxford Mail: "You have no idea what housing is being

put into Wheatley. It is destroying the place."

He said the population of the village had risen by about 1,000 people to 4,500 in recent years.

He said: "I would appeal for local people to come to the special parish council meeting, because it is vital to the future of Wheatley."

Residents will not be able to speak at the parish council meeting, but Mr Molloy is urging them to go along to hear the views of the councillors.

Mr Molloy said it was possible that a public meeting in Wheatley could be held, at which members of the public could air their views about housing development in the village.