

## PRESS RELEASE – EAST OVERTON DEVELOPMENT

Strathaven Community Council has submitted a formal Pre-application Consultation (PAC) response on the proposed mixed development by Paterson Partners at East Overton. Whereas the Community Council accepted the prospect of a development of 480 dwellings, small industrial units and a sports facility on this site, it was felt that there were a few matters that either required further consideration or justification before the application was submitted to SLC.

Concern was expressed that Berebriggs Road in its current state, did not provide suitable access to the A71 from the site and alternative routes via North Street or down Waterside Street would create further congestion in the town.

The provision of the Leisure Facility was welcomed but the Community Council proposed vehicular access direct from Hamilton Road (currently not provided in the plans), as otherwise the users of this facility from the rest of Strathaven would need to drive through the new housing development.

From the plans there appeared to be insufficient garaging or parking for the number of housing units. Considering the location and the poor public transport services in Strathaven it was felt that most homes would have a car and further parking facilities should be provided.

Other concerns raised by the Community Council were affordable housing, the inappropriate design of some of the properties for a rural area, especially the “Wellington Square” and whether the local education facilities, especially the primary schools, could cope with increased numbers of pupils.

Finally the Community Council wanted assurances from the developer that every effort would be made to provide underground heating systems, communal heating systems, green energy solutions, solar energy, sustainable urban drainage systems etc as an integral part of the development.