

Save the Greenbelt !

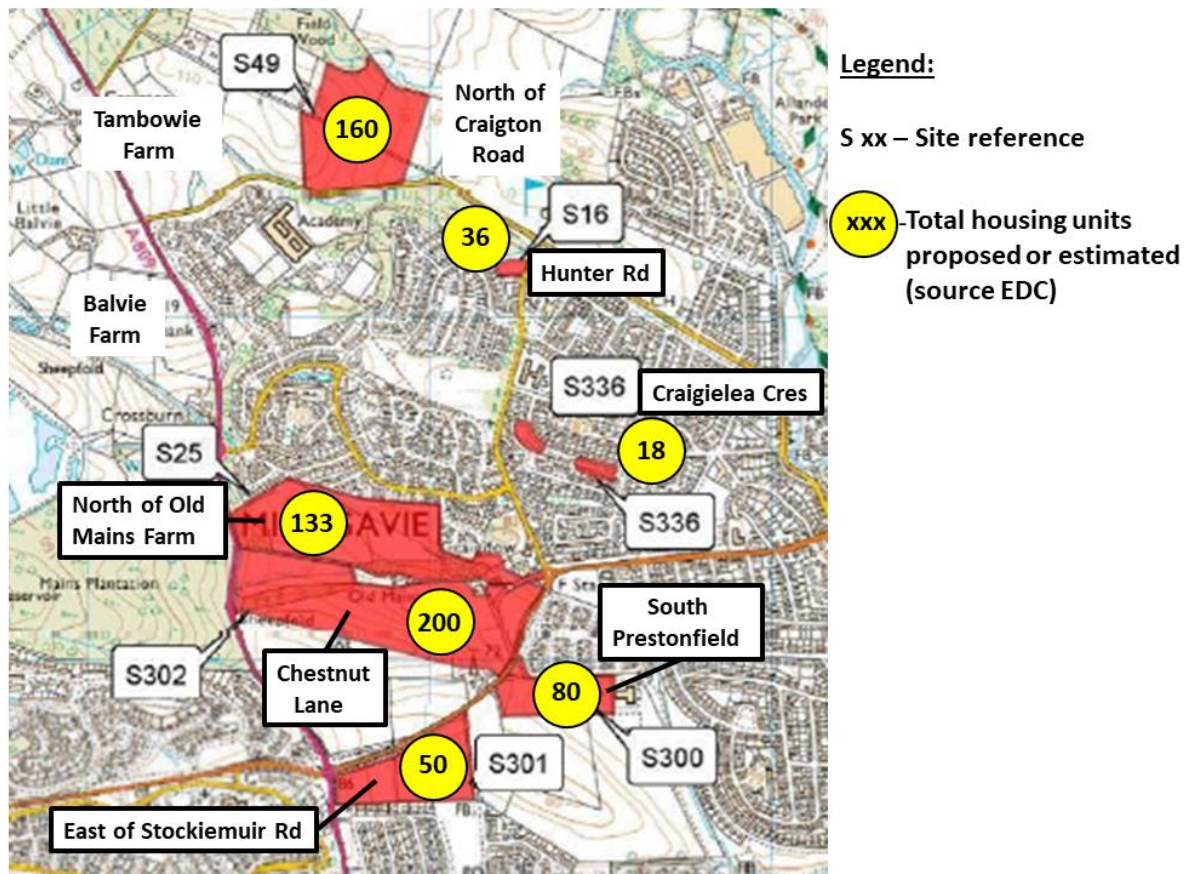
Produced by Save Milngavie & Bearsden Greenbelt Action Group

Ongoing threat to Greenbelt ! – Response deadline Tuesday 10th December 2019 (5pm)

It is important that we each take the time to respond to East Dunbartonshire Council's public consultation on the Main Issues Report (MIR) for the next Local Development Plan (LDP2). LDP2 will set out the strategy for the future use of land in Milngavie and Bearsden. It is important that we support the council in seeking to protect our greenbelt and direct new development to brownfield sites. It is important that we each take the time to support the Council's preferred option <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/council/consultations/main-issues-report-consultation>

Why?

Because the greenbelt remains under threat. Developers are seeking to change the designation of our greenbelt. The council advises that developers have sought to develop at least 659 properties (*see below*) on the greenbelt between Prestonfield, Craighdu Wedge, Mosshead, North Baljaffray and the Mains Estate!



Key points

- Our greenbelt is the only remaining land preventing the coalescence of Milngavie and Bearsden.
- Our greenbelt provides an important green network and wildlife corridor.
- Any reduction of the greenbelt between Milngavie and Bearsden will make farming unsustainable. So, we cannot afford to lose any of it, not even one field, or part of one field.
- Any additional housing will also put pressure on the local infrastructure and amenities. Douglas and Bearsden academies are both at capacity (*source EDC & Scottish Government*) and there are long waits for local medical services. The Milngavie train line is one of the least reliable services in Scotland (*source ScotRail*). The roads into Glasgow (A81 – Milngavie Rd and A810 – Drymen Rd) are both congested and the air quality at Bearsden Cross is near the limit of the council's accepted pollution levels (*source EDC & www.scottishairquality.scot*). Development of the greenbelt would increase the need for travel with emphasis on unsustainable methods of transport. Further erosion of our greenbelt between Milngavie and Bearsden will not address any of these challenges.

please see overleaf on how you can help

How can I continue to help protect our greenbelt and our local facilities?

1. **Individually respond to the Consultation** - It is essential that you respond in writing to the Consultation by **Tuesday 10th December 2019 at 5pm**. Every individual in your household can respond. Send responses by email to the council at development.plan@eastdunbarton.gov.uk Please entitle the email: *Response to Mains Issues Report Consultation* **OR** send your responses by post to the Land Planning Policy Team, East Dunbartonshire Council, Southbank House, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, G66 1XQ. Please remember to give your name and address. It would be helpful if you also copy your response to Milngavie Community Council at communitycouncilmilngavie@gmail.com and Bearsden North Community Council at so that they are informed.

Housing (Issue 3, MIR pages 21-22 and Issue 25, MIR pages 74-75)

Firstly, in your own words please explain why you believe that it is important to protect the greenbelt between Prestonfield, the Craighdu Wedge, Mosshead, North Baljaffray and the Mains Estate and that you support the Council's ambition to protect it. The key points overleaf may help you.

Then, it is also essential that you also say something about the protected greenbelt sites proposed by the developers for housing (*overleaf*) and why you think that it is important to retain them within the greenbelt. Here are some material points for you to consider in your response, in your own words:

- Land North of Old Mains Farm & Chestnut Lane (S25) – This protected greenbelt comprises summer grazing land and historic woodland; an important wildlife corridor together with historic garden, part is susceptible to flooding. The site also has the Core Path walkway through it, which is widely used by the public for recreation and health and wellbeing. Please support re-meandering of the watercourses on the flood plain to aid flood protection of Milngavie.
- Land South of Old Mains Farm, South of Chestnut Lane, North of Craighdu Road (including S302). This protected greenbelt is used for farming, has tree preservation orders and historic garden landscape and is an important wildlife corridor. This landscape has significant wider landscape value helping to prevent the coalescence of Bearsden and Milngavie.
- Land east of Stockiemuir Road (including S301) - Visually prominent farmland area which prevents coalescence between Bearsden and Milngavie, as well as providing landscape setting for both. Part of site **S301** is at flood risk. Trees have preservation orders. Hedgerows form a wildlife corridor.
- Land south of Prestonfield (including S300) – Visually prominent farmland area which prevents coalescence between Bearsden and Milngavie. Trees have preservation orders. Hedgerows provide a green corridor connecting the Mains Plantation Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS) to the west to the Craighdu Wedge LNCS to the east.
- Hunter Road (S16) – This greenspace is within the Craigton Woods LNCS. There are issues with drainage.
- Land north of Craigton Road (including S49 & Tambowie Farm) – This area is used for farming and has significant landscape value, with wide open views to Mugdock Woods and the Campsie fells. Part of this site is susceptible to flooding. It is important in relation to the setting and screening of Milngavie. It forms a well-defined green belt boundary with wildlife habitat value.
- Environs of Crossburn, including Balvie & Tambowie Farm – This area is used for farming and has significant landscape value, with wide open views to the Kilpatrick hills. The area is important in relation to the setting and screening of Milngavie. It forms a well-defined greenbelt boundary with wildlife habitat value.

2. **Attend Drop-in Session** - It is important, if you possibly can, that you also attend the Drop-in Session organised for us, by the Council, at **Bearsden Community Hub – Lesser Hall on Tuesday 26nd November 2019 between 3pm and 7pm**. This will give you an opportunity to discuss the consultation documents with planning officers. The consultation documents are also available at local libraries and on line at <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/council/consultations/main-issues-report-consultation>

Bearsden North Community Council, Milngavie Community Council and Mains Estate, Mosshead and Baljaffray Residents' Associations have all confirmed their support for protection of the greenbelt.