



[www.save-symondshyde.co.uk](http://www.save-symondshyde.co.uk)

## Save Symondshyde Campaign Update 2

Dear Supporter,

We have been working hard to raise awareness of Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's plans to allocate 135 acres of Green Belt land at Symondshyde for housing. This plan has not been consulted upon locally and there will only be one consultation which begins on 30th August. Unless we object, there is a real risk that this site will be approved for large scale development.

Our objective at the moment is to try and let as many people know about this as possible and to encourage people to sign up to receive email updates, so that we can tell you what's happening. Ideally we'd like you to forward this email to any friends who know and love the area and ask them to sign up for emails. We will be in contact again once the consultation opens to encourage as many people as possible to respond to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's plans and give reasons why this shouldn't go ahead.

### Latest News

**Lobbying:** Last week the campaign team attended the Cabinet Housing and Planning Policy Panel to object to the inclusion of Symonsdhyde in the local plan. Despite determined lobbying for our campaigners, they ignored the 1,200 signature petition and a proposal by Cllr Glyn Hayes to remove the site from the plan.



**Local Media:** We've also had some excellent letters published in the Herts Advertiser and the Welwyn Hatfield Times, [which can be found on our website](#). We need to keep the pressure up, so please do write to the Herts Advertiser ([matt.adams@archant.co.uk](mailto:matt.adams@archant.co.uk)) and Welwyn Hatfield Times ([terry.mitchinson@whtimes.co.uk](mailto:terry.mitchinson@whtimes.co.uk)) telling them what you think of the proposals.

**Banners and leaflets:** We have a number of larger vinyl banners and we're about to leaflet in Wheathampstead, St Albans and Sandridge, but we need some help. If you can drop leaflets in your street it will help to raise awareness of the plan and encourage more people to join us in objecting to it. Please contact [judy@shardlow4.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:judy@shardlow4.orangehome.co.uk) if you can deliver leaflets and we'll supply you with them. Our posters are also on our website as PDF's. If you can print one out and stick it in your window or car it will also help to raise awareness of the plan.

**1130 houses in the Green Belt near the John Bunyan pub?**

Welwyn Hatfield Council want to build 1130 houses in the Green Belt close to the John Bunyan (next to Symondshyde Great Wood).

They have not consulted the public or other councils on their plans. A short consultation will begin in August. They don't want you to know about this until it's too late. This plan will put more cars on the roads and destroy an outstanding area of Green Belt. It is heavily used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders and is part of our green heritage.

What can you do?

Your voice counts. The website below will let you know who to contact and how to object. This plan which will destroy an area of Green Belt which is supposed to have the highest protection unless we all act.



**Action Days:** We held an action day in Marshalswick last Saturday and very many people were concerned about these plans. We urgently need people to help us on action days, if you can give an hour of your time one weekend please contact: [jillcoggins@save-symondshyde.co.uk](mailto:jillcoggins@save-symondshyde.co.uk)



**Facebook:** We are doing fantastically well on Facebook but we need more people to share our pictures and to spread the word. We added a beautiful picture of a herd of Roe deer to our Facebook page and it has already been shared over 100 times.

This is one of our most effective ways of raising awareness so please take a

look at our page: [www.facebook.com/Save.Symondshyde/](http://www.facebook.com/Save.Symondshyde/) and share it with your friends.

**Fundraising:** Unless we publicise the plans, most people in the neighbourhood won't be consulted. *Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council will do the bare minimum during their consultation.* A leaflet run costs around £100, banners are about £90. Legal support during the Government Inspector's review will run to many £,000s. We've now added a [donate page](#) to our website, this will allow us to raise money to continue the campaign. Even if you can't physically get involved to prevent the destruction of Symondshyde, we'd really appreciate it if you could donate towards the cause. Virtually no one had heard about Symondshyde until we publicised it and we need donations to continue.

Finally, the Welwyn Hatfield Local Plan consultation will open on 30th August. The council want as many people as possible to comment via their consultation website. Although the consultation hasn't started, you can pre-register to ensure that you have a say: [www.consult.welhat.gov.uk/common/register.jsp](http://www.consult.welhat.gov.uk/common/register.jsp) (make sure you register as a consultee).

Thank you for your support and please do keep in touch. If you have any questions or can help in any way we'd love to hear from you so please contact our chair John Gardner: [johngardner@save-symondshyde.co.uk](mailto:johngardner@save-symondshyde.co.uk)

The [Save Symonshyde Campaign Team](#)

**Note for Gmail users**

To prevent Gmail from placing our emails in your 'Promotions' tab (where they might not be noticed) please add our email address to your Google Contacts



**Save Symondshyde**