

# LIPSON AND LAIRA

Sustainable Neighbourhoods Development Plan  
Document Consultation 16/02/2011 – 30/03/2011



## SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

This is a summary of some of the key issues emerging from the consultation process. Fuller versions of the representations can be viewed below.

Three individual representations were received from residents the majority of whom thought that the summary of the neighbourhood was a reasonable reflection of the situation.

### Shopping

Responses indicated that shopping facilities are few and far between are too far away for most residents to walk and that Sainsbury is a very short car drive away and mainly cheaper.

### Local issues

A number of these were identified including:

- Lack of open/green space suitable for children to play in the north east part of the neighbourhood.
- Lack of well kept and maintained green spaces i.e. Efford Fort, Efford Marsh & Laira Emplacement.
- No bins for dog waste.
- Poor and irregular bus service.
- Lack of community facilities.
- Volume of traffic through Laira Narrows.

### Important Greenspaces

Efford Fort, Efford Marsh Nature Reserve and Laira Emplacement (LL07, LL08) should be protected from development due to their importance historically and for wildlife. These areas should be maintained on a regular basis and dog bins should be provided. Green spaces LL13, LL14 & LL15 should be protected from development so residents can continue to enjoy views over the Plym. Green space LL10 should have a fenced area for football and a separate area for small children which could include a swings & climbing frame etc.

### Potential Development Sites

The patch of land opposite Zak's (site of the old congregational church) could have potential for redevelopment.

### Other Comments

- Laira Emplacement should be deemed part of the Efford Nature Reserve and maintained accordingly.
- Crash barriers on Embankment Road are in the wrong place and should be between the road and the footpath to create a barrier between the traffic and pedestrians.
- Astor Community Centre site now used as a car park and this should remain.

Q2 – How are you connected with this neighbourhood?

Q3a – Do you generally agree with the summary of this neighbourhood?

Q3b – If not, what would you like to change?

Q4 – What do you think of the shopping facilities?

Q5 – Briefly in order of importance, what do you think are the biggest issues in the neighbourhood? e.g. youth facilities, traffic, affordable homes etc.

Q6a – Which green spaces/parks are important to you and why? (please identify them using the numbers on the map)

Q6b – Are there any areas of green or open space that are not shown which you feel should be protected? Please explain why

Q7 – Identify any sites you feel should or could be developed and for what purpose?

Full Name	Q2	Q3a	3b	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q6b	Q7	Other comments
Angela Agnew SNDDP57	Resident	Yes		Shopping facilities in Laira are few and far between, mainly due to the fact that Sainsbury's is located at Marsh Mills. This obviously is a problem for the elderly or those without their own transport. There is one post office in Pike Road. Again, a bus ride away for most residents.	Poor shopping facilities  Lack of well kept and maintained green spaces, i.e. Efford Fort, Efford Marsh and Laira Emplacement could be wonderful community areas, however, due to lack of maintenance by the council are full of rubbish/fly tipped items. Also, there are no bins for dog waste.  Poor and irregular bus service  Lack of community facilities  Volume of traffic through Laira Narrows  It feels that Laira is the area most neglected by the Council whereas others (such as Devonport) have money pumped in to them continually. Laira/Efford has just as much historical interest, i.e. the forts/emplacements which should be kept for future generations. These areas are also brimming with wildlife.	LL08, LL07, LL06, i.e. Efford Fort, Efford Marsh Nature Reserve and Laira Emplacement.  Apart from the fact that these green spaces are of huge historical importance to Plymouth and should be maintained for future generations, the areas are brimming with wildlife. They are also the only green spaces that we have in the area so should be preserved for the community to enjoy. I regularly photograph the wildlife in these areas and Laira Emplacement in particular has an abundance of insects, wildflowers, grasses and bird life, especially during the spring/summer months. It also provides shelter for foxes and badgers. To build on the emplacement or any other of the sites listed would be criminal. The council simply needs to maintain these areas on a regular basis and also install bins for dog waste.	The area of woodland adjacent to Manifold Gardens and behind Darwin Crescent Laira. An ancient wood, once again full of wildlife.		The biggest concern I have is that the council is planning to build on Laira Emplacement. As stated, I am a regular visitor to this area and am concerned for the wildlife. In my opinion it should be deemed part of Efford Nature Reserve and maintained accordingly.
Mr Nicholas Dixon SNDDP80	Resident	Yes		My family rarely use the shopping facilities in the area as they are too far to walk and Sainsbury is a very short car drive away, and mainly cheaper.	The north east of the area suffers from a lack of open/green space which is suitable for children to play in.	LL08 - this is a fantastic haven for wildlife which should be preserved as such. Opening it up for public use would simply lead to vandalism, littering and the displacement or loss of flora and fauna. No enhancements are the best option - spend council money on something else! It would also serve little purpose to us as we would have to walk almost a mile to reach it.  LL09 - unsure as to what use could be made of a 45 degree slope above a petrol station.  LL10 - Currently children play football on the grass. Fence all of this off, so football can be continued, with a		No further development is either needed or practicable in this area. Hands off Laira Emplacement!	Why are the crash barriers on the wrong side of the footpath on the Embankment/ Plymouth Road? Surely it would make sense to install them between the road and the footpath, not between the footpath and the fence? This applies particularly on the 3-lane stretch between Sainsbury's and up to the Mutley Plain turning. Moving the barriers would make the footpath a) safer and importantly b) feel safer. I would be much more inclined to take my children out on their bicycles if there was a physical barrier between us and the traffic.

						separate small area for children to safely play in, which could include swings, climbing frame etc. The alternative at the moment is to load children into cars and drive them to another playground or Saltram; this is true at least for every child on our road.			
Mr. peter York SNDPD93	resident, landowner and local lib/dem rep,	No	ll14,ll15.is part of Sutton and Mount Gould ward and should come under Mount Gould and not Lipson and Laira in my opinion			LL13, LL14, LL15, is the only green area in the Mount Gould and Beaumont Road area with views over the Plym and must be kept for all residents to enjoy.			The old Aster centre ended up being levelled after being vandalised and made derelict, it is now used as a car park and in my opinion should stay so. I was involved in the Mount Gould park children's play area with others, (now under re construction), and as far as any residential development is concerned it would be criminal to build on the only GREEN space in the Mount Gould area of Beaumont Road. The access to the area is on a very tight bend and would cause a very serious danger to the public and vehicles alike please leave well alone.
Angela Agnew SNDPD238						<p>Further to my comments added online at the consultation portal on 20 March 2011, I would like to add the following:</p> <p>As stated, due to the abundance of flora and fauna Laira Emplacement should be kept as a place of historical interest and the surrounding land incorporated into the Efford Nature Reserve, however, the building itself is obviously used by the local youth as a place to drink/possibly take drugs. It might, therefore, be prudent if a grill/door was placed over the entrance to the monument in order to preserve it and also to deter such activity. This might in turn reduce the amount of litter and also encourage other locals to enjoy the area.</p> <p>In any case, Laira Emplacement, Efford Emplacement and Efford Marsh Nature Reserve are full of fly tipped items/rubbish and require attention from the council (which is long overdue). Possibly litter bins could be installed in the area (maybe sponsored by Sainsbury's or MacDonald's?) as much of the litter seems to arise from these establishments!</p> <p>With regard to Laira Emplacement and Efford Marsh Nature Reserve, possibly gates could be installed at each entrance to deter the use of trail bikes in the fields/woods?</p> <p>Furthermore, the areas are frequently used by dog owners so dog waste bins need to be installed as some people are currently throwing plastic dog waste bags in to bushes. Obviously these do not degrade and as the area is not maintained on a regular basis by the council this is both unsightly and a health hazard.</p>		With regard to Laira Narrows, a site to be considered for redevelopment could be the patch of land opposite Zaks, i.e. the site of the old congregational church. Not sure what it could be used for but this is an area that seems to have gone to waste for a number of years.	