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■ No Moor Development has been campaigning for a long time against what it fears are unsustainable housing developments.

Authority's housing decision will be North End's 'most important'

Yatton Parish Council says claims a proposed 83-home development will not affect village life are 'nonsense' – and believes the proposal will only add to problems already created by other nearby permitted developments.

Persimmon Homes wants to build the homes on land currently used by Yatton Rugby Club for junior training, off Moor Road.

The parish council's planning committee discussed the application on May 16 and its chairman said North Somerset Council's final decision will have major ramifications on the village's long-term future.

Cllr Richard Westwood added: "I would say this is probably the most important planning application ever for North End.

"If this goes through, we might as well pack up and go."

His words were largely supported by other members of the parish council who have consistently voiced

concerns about the scale of development occurring in Yatton.

Cllr Rhiannon Prys-Owen said: "To say that there will be minimal impact on the highways infrastructure I think is nonsense.

"How many times do we have to consult with the community and get the same responses about poor infrastructure?"

"How many times do we have to consult with people and still get overridden by developers' decisions and applications?"

Cllr Wendy Griggs said: "What else is there to add? We have heard so much about this application.

"There has been no suggestion of looking at the total impact. Someone has just said 'it's a piece of land, let's stick houses on it.'"

The committee decided to formally decide on the plans at its next meeting on Tuesday, so it would be able to formulate its reasons for objection in the meantime.

MP criticises council over new housing

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The Government will not intervene in plans to build hundreds of new homes in Yatton, despite North Somerset's MP criticising the way in which the homes were allocated to the village.

Some 520 homes are set to be built by developers Bloor Homes and Hallam Land Management off Arnolds Way, while Persimmon Homes is also hoping to build 83 homes off Moor Road.

Dr Liam Fox MP has now asked North Somerset Council to consider the overall impact of developments in North End, rather than looking at developments individually.

Villagers unhappy with the proposals also asked North Somerset, in the form of a parish poll, to weigh up the cumulative impact of the developments, but the council said this was unnecessary.

Dr Fox requested the applications be reviewed by Secretary of State Brandon Lewis. But, Mr Lewis has said he will not take any action.

Dr Fox said: "I believe the sheer volume of the planned houses is incompatible with the ability of local infrastructure to absorb the increased demand.

"We are all aware of the

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Dr Liam Fox MP

pressures being placed on North Somerset Council to provide more housing and the particular issues arising in Yatton. I do not have to rehearse again my concerns about the impact on local infrastructure. I'd ask, however, these applications are not looked at in isolation, but rather their cumulative effect be taken fully into account.

"In addition, it is very important for residents to understand what mitigation measures might be undertaken to provide improved transport access, school places and NHS provision as part of any development, especially what level of funding may be available from the developers themselves. It is quite unacceptable to impose the houses and hope the infrastructure may follow."

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