

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed development of OSW004.

We had always been appalled at the suggested housing developments near Old Oswestry Hill Fort, but it wasn't until we attended the recent 'In Defence of Old Oswestry Hill Fort' seminar that we realised that building on the Whittington Road site would be equally detrimental. A computer-generated image clearly illustrated that the presence of even a small number of modestly-sized houses on plot OSW004 would obscure the view of the hill fort from Whittington Road. It is and always has been a splendid sight for both Oswestrians and those visiting the town.

It is only comparatively recently that experts have recognised the importance of the context of early historic sites and the visual impact designed to impress those approaching them. Future investigations of the site using newly-discovered archaeological techniques would be severely limited by building on OSW004.

What a pity that, at a time when this has been appreciated at Stonehenge and other important monuments, Shropshire Council is even contemplating ignoring recent expert opinion by desecrating Oswestry's prime heritage site in this way.

Sincerely,

Carol and Derek Williams