



THE  
PEMBURY  
SOCIETY

HONOURING OUR PAST, SHAPING OUR FUTURE

# PEMBURY AT BREAKING POINT: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

## **A Special Bulletin from The Pembury Society**

Pembury is a village under siege. While we pride ourselves on our community spirit, that spirit is being tested to its absolute limit by a combination of failing infrastructure and a wave of proposed developments that threaten to change the face of our home forever.

For years, we have raised the alarm. Now, the crisis is at our doorstep.

### **The Taps Are Running Dry**

As you read this, our village is reeling from its third major water supply failure in two years—with two of those occurring in the last two months alone.

Our current system has no spare capacity or backup. When it fails, the village stops. If our current infrastructure cannot support us today, how can it possibly cope with a 15% increase in housing? Adding hundreds of new front doors without upgrading the pipes is not just poor planning; it is a recipe for a permanent utility crisis.

### **The Sewage Scandal**

It isn't just what's coming into our homes; it's what's leaving them. This is a public health hazard that already exists - the Victorian small-bore sewage system is already at the dry weather limit - even moderate rain means sewage re-emerges onto gardens and streets. To propose mass development before fixing a broken, overflowing sewage system is an insult to every resident.

### **Gridlock: The Death of the "Village"**

If you think the Woodsgate crossroads is bad now, consider this: traffic is projected to double in the next few years due to the mass developments five miles away in Paddock Wood.

On top of this, the proposed plans for Pembury include:

- The loss of approximately 100 scarce on-street parking spaces.
- New developments with insufficient parking, forcing even more cars onto our already narrow, congested streets.
- Unnecessary traffic calming measures that are only being proposed to mitigate the developers' desire to eliminate off-street parking.

With bus services halved over the last five years and evening or weekend transport virtually non-existent, we are being forced into cars while the roads are simultaneously being made unusable.

### **Infrastructure: The Missing Link**

Development is supposed to improve a community, not drain it. Yet, we see:

- Primary Healthcare: Already overstretched and at capacity.
- School Provision: No clear plan for the influx of new families.
- Political Convenience: The Tunbridge Wells Local Plan has been adopted, and these applications will likely reach the planning committee within two months with a "presumption of passing."

We are being sacrificed on the altar of anonymous government housing targets. These numbers are being imposed with zero consideration for the cumulative effect on our daily lives.

"We are not against development FOR the village; we are against development which is done TO the village."

### **A Dormitory Village? Not On Our Watch.**

If we do not stand up now, Pembury will become an untenable "dormitory village"—a place where it is hard to get to, hard to leave, where commerce struggles, and where opportunities for our children are stifled by a lack of basic services.

### **Only public outrage can stop common sense from being trampled.**

The Pembury Society has been monitoring this situation for years. We know the facts, we know the sites, and we know what needs to be done. We intend to make it impossible for any local politician to ignore this disastrous situation.

We are demanding hard guarantees for infrastructure changes—roads, water, sewage, education, and healthcare—before a single brick is laid.

- We need your attention. Please share this information with your neighbours.
- We need your support. We will be writing to you again shortly to outline the easy, practical steps you can take to make your voice heard and ensure your opinion counts.

**The time to act is now Let's save Pembury**

Issued by The Pembury Society - Honouring our past, shaping our future

[www.pemburysociety.org](http://www.pemburysociety.org)

[info@pemburysociety.org](mailto:info@pemburysociety.org)