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Construction Challenge

Briefings for Local Groups (Activity 3)

The following four developments have been proposed for an area near the village of Trimswich

- Theme Park
- Quarry
- Superstore/Hyperstore
- Industrial Park

In your groups - consider each development in turn and make a list of the things you are concerned about.

Draw up some questions which you want to put to the developers at the meeting. There may only be time to ask one or two questions of each developer

Local group brief – Shopkeepers and tradespeople

Your group represents the local shopkeepers in the village. You are very concerned about the effects of the proposed developments on your businesses. Which developments are likely to bring you more customers? What might damage your business?

You are also concerned about the effects on the local environment. You do not wish to see the countryside around the village being spoiled.

Local group brief - Parents with young and teenage children

Your group represents families with young and teenage children. You are very concerned about the lack of jobs for young people in the area and the movement of young adults away from the village to find work in urban areas. You would like to see improvements in the facilities and amenities offered in the area so that there is provision for the children, for example, a youth club. You want the village to be safe and are concerned about heavy traffic.

Local group brief – Older residents

Your group represents the older people in the village, some who have lived there all their lives, and some have retired to the village. Several of you are members of the local conservation group.

You are very concerned about the effects of the proposals on the quality of life. You live in a quiet and peaceful part of the countryside. You are worried about the destruction the trees and old hedgerows and the effect of the developments on the wildlife. Which of the developments might meet the needs of older residents?

Local group brief – Councillors

Your group represents the local councillors for the area which includes the village. You are concerned about the rising unemployment in the area and the lack of facilities and amenities for local people. You would like to see a development that offers jobs for local people and stimulates the local economy. This should help to pay for new amenities.

You are worried about the problems which might be caused by increased traffic and the effect any development might have on the environment. Local elections are near and you do not want to support a development that turns out to be an environmental disaster. You would like to negotiate a deal with the developers to make sure there are jobs, new roads to solve the traffic problems and measures taken to make the development environmentally acceptable.

Local group brief – Farmers

Your group represents the local farmers in the area of the village. You are concerned about the continuing loss of land to developers and the way this is changing the countryside. You are worried that the environment you have lived and worked in all your life is going to be ruined.

The farmers with land next to the proposed site are very concerned about the effects on their farms, especially those with livestock. All farmers are worried about the effect of increased traffic, new roads through their land and the effect of pollution on their animals and crops.