

Write to us at Colchester Gazette, Unit 1, Brunel Court, Severalls Industrial Estate, Colchester CO4 9XP or email gazette.letters@newsquest.co.uk
Please keep it brief, with your full name and address, which will only be withheld in exceptional circumstances.

Listening to us on housing plan is simply a pretence

THE draft Local Plan does not look that draft to me. Inviting comments?

Without exception, everyone on Mersea that I have spoken to has found it unfathomable and virtually impossible to respond to.

The Draft Local Plan here not a plan for 200, but at least 330 houses, and does not take account of yet another 100 from in filling.

Not a draft in other ways as well.

Representatives from the developers are saying to residents it is a done deal. It will happen.

Why are you objecting? They are acting like they have not a care in the world.

And council representatives? They have been very quick to say these houses could bring improvements to services.

Forgetting, of course, we still have not had those promised from the last local plan.

Anyway should not the council be independent in this process?

Last autumn, Mersea had 580 objections to the first draft of the plan. That was out of 1,884 objections from the whole of Colchester.

What changes has it brought? Nothing in reality. In fact, worse. Two sites and, as stated at the start, 330 houses.

So why has the borough done this to Mersea? I cannot find any reason in the Draft Plan.

It is not explained in language for residents.

They have gone for what they wanted all along on pretence that they have listened.

A view of one Mersea resident? I believe it is one shared by many hundreds if not more on Mersea.

Ray Sheehan
East Road, West Mersea

'Overbearing and all-powerful giant'

LIKE K Finlay (Gazette, Thursday) I am at a loss to understand the contradictory mindset of those UK citizens who presumably believe in the democratic system we all enjoy in Britain, yet at the same time are perfectly willing to be told what to do by that unselected,

Pastel pallette



■ Life's a beach - Andrea Patey took this picture of beach huts in East Mersea

voted to leave.

It is a fact that Britain pays more in than it gets out, why should that be acceptable either?

The very idea of remaining and changing the EU from inside is utter dreamlike nonsense, the leaders are not open to any suggestion of change, which is clearly evident by their pompous, arrogant attitudes.

The road ahead may be bumpy, no-one claims that all will be easy, but the long term benefits in respect of future self determination can be huge.

Paul Hart
Alexandra Drive, Wivenhoe

Tories versus Labour? Bring it on!

PETER Graham's response to my letter made me smile.

I can assure him I do read the papers - the one you are reading now for local news, the "i" for wider coverage, as it is the least biased of all the dailies, and Private Eye, to see just what some of our politicians, big

expected to steamroller the Labour Party into oblivion.

Oh dear, what happened there?

The best she has been able to manage is a tawdry alliance with the DUP, (£100 million for each of the 10 MPs).

No doubt they will be after more money on a regular basis.

Michael Gove (backstabber extraordinaire) even had the nerve to say on TV that Northern Ireland was in desperate need of more money - in fact for 2015/16 the average public funding from the Government for the Irish was £10,983 per person, for the Scots £10,536, for the Welsh £9,996, and for the English £8,816.

The extra £1 billion will push the Irish figure up to £11,500 per person.

Our "strong and stable" Government is a complete shambles, with cabinet ministers openly criticising each other.

Philip Hammond even mocked "Bumbling Boris" Johnson in German whilst giving a speech over there recently.

We are now over a year since

but Labour increased their share by a much bigger margin. The next election will be very interesting. With the collapse of the Lib Dems, following their disastrous dalliance with the Tories, Colchester has become a straight fight between the two major parties.
Bring it on.

Dave Lester
Mile End, Colchester

Careless binmen have put me off

I HAVE no problem with fortnightly - or even monthly - collections of black sacks.

We are a household of three and we struggle to fill one black sack per month.

Or at least we did. I have recently stopped all food waste recycling after the third caddy was effectively destroyed by the rough treatment meted out to it by the binmen.

And I do not have the holiday time or energy to go and collect