

Comment

Good for some... but is it good for everyone?

NEW plans were today unveiled for a major heritage and conservation centre in Great Horkesley.

Villagers living in the area of this beautiful and tranquil part of the Colchester borough will find their hearts sinking.

They live in the villages because they love the peace, the countryside, the quiet way of life.

On the other hand, the prospect of a new visitor centre in these harsh economic times is tempting.

It could generate more than 100 jobs and also bring tourists – and their wallets – to Colchester.

Tourism is a major industry in the town with 5,000 people deriving their income from it.

So here is the rub.

How do you combine the introduction of a major tourist attraction with the preservation of the village life which is held so dear?

Bunting and Sons say they have listened to the public and responded to the issues raised.

The A134 will be widened to cope with traffic and great emphasis is put on sustainability.

No buildings will be put up above ground in the area of outstanding natural beauty.

This project, if given permission, will change Great Horkesley and the surrounding villages forever.

The question is: for better or worse?