# Protesters fear 3,500 homes would 'swamp' rural village

### Sophie Grubb



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PROTESTERS paced the perimeter of a planned development that would dwarf a rural village near Abingdon.

Villagers in Culham, which had a population of just 453 people in the 2011 Census, were 'outraged' by a proposal to invade their Green Belt with 3,500 homes.

South Oxfordshire District Council wants to deliver 'innovative' housing in Culham to promote the continued success of Culham Science Centre.

Residents hit back with a protest walk last week, wearing green ribbon belts and carrying branches to signify the supposedly sacred status of Green Belt land.

Culham resident Sophie Wilson said: "Residents are outraged that the plan described the beautiful open countryside al-



OLITPAGEED Villagers protesting against 3 500 homes on the Gran Balt : Culla

## Charities matched with grant funders

A SCHEME which encourages charities and donors to link up is now operating in Oxfordshire.

A new fundraising platform entitled The Good Exchange is working closely with Oxfordshire Community Foundation, in a bid to forge new partnerships.

The initiative is focusing on bringing charities and community organisations together with grant funders, donors and fundraisers, to support local projects to reach fundraising targets and transform neighbourhoods.

For more visit thegoodexchange.com

## Police & crime plan

COUNCILLORS will be briefed on the police and crime plan for the next four years at a meeting on Thursday.

Police and Crime Commissioner Anthony Stansfeld will address Oxfordshire County Council performance scrutiny committee with his objectives for the Thames Valley for 2017 to 2021.

The meeting will be held in the county hall from 10am.

For more information on the police and crime plan as well as the rest of the meeting's agenda visit: oxfordshire.gov.uk

#### Civil war memorial

CHALGROVE residents will gather on Sunday to remember a soldier who died in the English Civil War.

Colonel John Hampden was wounded on June 18, 1643, in the Battle of Chalgrove.

Residents will meet in Warpsgrove Lane, Chalgrove, at 10.30am.