

The truly independent voice of the community, written and distributed by local volunteers



# Tescogusting!

**PEOPLE of Durrington beware! A monstrosity like the one in this photo is on its way to your neighbourhood.**

New roads and a vast increase in the amount of cars and delivery lorries will make life a 24/7 misery for thousands of residents.

And what remains of our small local shops will be forced out of business as money-grabbing Tesco pushes on with its selfish plan for a total retail monopoly.

The greedy supermarket giant is not content with the massive profits it is currently raking in

from its store off New Road, plus all the other Tesco Express outlets that have sprung up across town.

It wants to build a massive new 'Tesco Extra' on the green fields between its current shop and beautiful Titnore Woods.

The 13,138sq metre superstore, to include nine shops, would be twice the size of the current supermarket – simply Tescogusting!

Worthing council gave 'outline' permission for this horrific scheme in May 2008 and is now trying to give it the full go-

ahead without too much fuss.

The Worthing Herald seems to have joined the Tesco-council alliance, making out that the project is good news because of all the jobs it will 'create' - ignoring the fact that massive new shopping malls like this put out of business all the little shops that struggle to survive in the local community.

Apparently these jobs don't count for those who are happy to believe the corporate lie that big is beautiful and 'progress' equals bigger profits for the fat cats.

**How to oppose the scheme, pg2**

**From a nation of shopkeepers to Clone Town Britain?**

THE UK'S biggest supermarkets are grappling for ever greater market share.

Small independent stores and suppliers, and ultimately consumers, are paying a direct price in the face of unfair competition.

In the five years to 2002, 50 specialist stores including butchers, bakers, fishmongers and newsagents closed every week.

The All-Party Parliamentary Small Shops Group investigated the future of small shops in the UK. Its report 'High Street Britain: 2015', released in January 2006, predicted a bleak future for independent shops.

The report predicted that independent convenience stores were unlikely to survive by 2015 and independent newsagents were very unlikely to survive. Likewise, a report by the New Economics Foundation (NEF) from 2005, Clone Town Britain, found that chain retailers are damaging to the local economy, social inclusion and local identity.

Small shops are vital for people to access healthy food, in particular disadvantaged groups, and people without cars or with limited mobility. The closure of many small shops has left some neighbourhoods with limited access to healthy food.

**What will the future impact of these changes be?**

There are concerns that the closure of small shops is a one-way street. Once small independent stores shut, there are often insurmountable barriers to getting back into the High Street. And there are concerns that a tipping point could be reached. Once a certain amount of independent retailers shut, the wholesale industry may no longer be sustainable, and could collapse.

**Report from Tescopoly Alliance**  
[www.tescopoly.org](http://www.tescopoly.org)

# Northbrook traffic chaos

HELLISH traffic chaos lies ahead for Northbrook residents if Tesco gets the go-ahead.

A new road will be built between Fulbeck Avenue and the new megastore, meaning cars and lorries will be thundering past people's homes day and night, disturbing the peace, polluting the air and

meaning it will no longer be safe for children to play in the streets near their homes.

Also, the existing petrol station, a pollution hotspot, will nearly double in size, increasing the risks to our health.

But what do Tesco or the council care about OUR LIVES or OUR FAMILIES?

# Nightmare must be opposed!

VOICES of opposition to the Tesco Extra plan for Durrington have already started to be raised – from all over the world!

Malcolm Fisher from Australia wrote to the Worthing Herald to complain about their 'strangely enthusiastic' story on the prospect of the mammoth new store which he said 'could have been lifted from Tesco's very own public relations spin'.

He added: "James Appleton, executive head of 'planning, regeneration and wellbeing' at Worthing Council sounded equally upbeat in his accompanying comments, despite his role of being an impartial adjudicator."

Said Mr Fisher: "Surely, the very last thing that Worthing needs is yet another gigantic, shopping complex with mega car park and immense housing estate, but there is a vital need for green space, natural beauty and fresh air, all of which are priceless commodities."

"This once-pleasant seaside town is increasingly becoming an ugly suburban sprawl with the civic planning process seemingly being hijacked by developer greed."

Added one shopkeeper: "Having seen my takings fall by

over 28% in the last year, the worst thing I could hear now was that a sell-everything Tesco was opening within 5 miles.

"The first blow was the heavy-handed parking enforcement, and then came the credit crunch blow. Now with a roll-over council likely to do everything Tesco want, I guess this will be the knockout blow that makes me sell up, make the staff redundant and join the letter writer above in Australia."

Commented a Durrington resident: "Why does the Council accept Tesco's claims about so many new jobs being created without question? Do they get a special gold clubcard? The truth is of course Tesco's staff will increase, however other jobs at local retailers will be lost and shops will close. It is generally accepted that each pound spent at a Tesco's more of that pound will be taken out of the local economy..."

Campaigners against the Titnore Woods housing development are also opposing the new store, pointing out that the combined greed of Tesco and the property developers is being allowed by the council to wreck both our environment and our community.

**WRITE in against the new megastore, quoting application number WB/09/0146/ARM and send to the Development Control Manager, Worthing Borough Council, Portland House, Richmond Road, Worthing by 14th May 2009. Don't forget to include your name and address!**