

## 'Confident of appeal success'

AN appeal against the rejection of an application to build up to 400 homes in Alfold, near Dunsfold Aerodrome, is due to be heard next spring.

Saying the development would provide the funding needed to ensure its survival, the charity Care Ashore, together with its development partner Thakeham, submitted the proposal to Waverley Borough Council last year.

The application, which would have doubled the size of the village was rejected in July by planners without being debated by elected councillors. Plans included a primary school, shop, parkland and café, as well as a new care facility for Care Ashore.

The council cited the site's remote location, reliance on car-borne travel, scale, urbanisation and lack of services as reasons for refusal, despite it being situated directly opposite Dunsfold Aerodrome, where the council wants to build 2,600 homes as part of its draft Local Plan.

Robert Boughton, group managing director of Thakeham, said the development would provide investment of more than £15 in the community. He said: "The council officers' decision was undemocratic and does not reflect the merit of the scheme, and we are confident about our chances at appeal."