

## Village and 'unsuitable development'

SIR, — It is, I feel, necessary to comment on your report "Villagers unite to fight development" (The Western Gazette, 16th May) concerning the inaugural meeting of the Thorncombe Village Trust.

As I stated in my opening address to the meeting, the birth of the trust has, unfortunately, become associated with the housing development at Higher Farm, Thorncombe, which is not correct. However, that development acted as a catalyst and caused the trust to come more quickly to everyone's notice in what appeared to be a solely anti-development role, which is a very small percentage of its reasons for existence. In fact, we are not anti-development; we are anti-unsuitable development as affecting the village amenities.

Thorncombe Village Trust has numerous identifiable interests ranging from conservation of the natural habitat, flora and fauna of the parish, preservation of our historic buildings, research into local history, footpath and bridle path usage and their maintenance to quote but a few. Among these is the protection of the village against unsuitable development such as you mention.— R D J HAWKES, chairman, Thorncombe Village Trust, The Old Crown, Fore Street, Thorncombe.