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## Ongar residents picket new showhouses

by Martin Ryan

A major rift has developed between Manor Park Homes developers and residents of Ongar who are angered at what they claim is "the shoddy way in

which we have been treated by their management company." The complaints allege a failure to develop, maintain and repair amenities in the community as

well as a number of other issues.

A two and half hour meeting held on Wednesday 20th February between residents and Manor Park Homes made limited progress but has led to a promise from the developers to revisit the matter in six weeks time, after consultation with the management agent.

Previously the residents say they have had serious difficulties in getting Manor Park Homes representatives to attend meetings which has exacerbated the situation. However they have expressed concern about the vagueness of the assurances received as no specific dates have been given.

The Manor Park Homes estates in Ongar are run by three management companies which have David Wallis as agent. The directors of the Ongar estates management groups are also the directors of Manor Park Homes, so residents believe that the situation could have been resolved long before now.

Many Ongar residents and local politicians demonstrated in large numbers at the recent launch of Manor Park Homes' new development in the area at Barnwell Hansfield, which is adjacent to Ongar. At the demonstration Samantha Dooley spoke of the many concerns of residents. She referred specifically to the problem of getting in contact with the developer.

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Samantha Dooley

Samantha Dooley, Chairperson of the Ongar Resident's Association Committee, says they remain hopeful if a little sceptical about this possible resolution.

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