COUNCILLOR'S PLAN TRIGGERS PROTEST

DORSET EVENING ECHO Thursday, March 6, 1986

Willagers oppose ambitious plans for farm complex

coment plans for a owned by West Dor-set District Council gered a storm of

The 60-year-old vice-

By John Slater

mbe was in an area of ambe was in an area of itstanding. Natural auty and felt the scheme puld be detrimental to e scale, character and ay of life of the village. They also wanted West arset Council to defer a scision until after they ad had the chance to see the scheme details.

pre details.

The village gathering is followed by a parish uncil meeting, where embers recommended ection of the application cause they felt —

the scheme would be verdevelopment, out of cale and in the wrong art of the village on a green field site out-ide the village limits

in a designated area of outstanding Natural

seauty .

ferred for further details claimed Mr. Atyeo had misled them when he told them about the proposed development at their meeting on February 12.

Mr. Atyeo, who did not attend either the parish gathering or the latest council meeting, denied the allegation.

"I did not mislead them," he told the Echo.

"I did not have to tell them anything but I gave details out of goodwill."

He said conversion of the farmhouse — once the village workhouse would not alter the building's appearance.

Mr. Atyeo, a committee member of the West Dorset Rural Development

ed, he might sell the site or develop it himself.

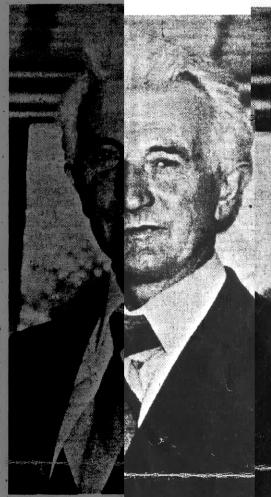
"I have no builder in mind and, if I sold the land. it would be advertised and go to the highest bidder."

Area Planning Officer, Mr. Derek Price said the application, submitted by Mr. Atyeo's agent, Brid-port Surveyor, Mr. Michael Fearn, had brought more than a dozen written objections in one day's post alone.

DECISION

He explained there would have to be consultations with the Water Authorities over land drainage and sewerage and with the County Surveyor regarding proposed access arrangements.

"The application will be



Running into trouble: Atyeo: "I wish I he Councillor and farmer d never thought of it." AMBITIOUS development plans for a farm complex pwned by West Dorset District Council member Mr. Jim Atyeo have triggered a storm of protest at Thorncombe, near Bridport.

The 60-year-old vice-chairman of the council's vestern Area Pianning Sub-Committee has been accused of misleading fellow parish councillors and proposing a scheme that would be detrimental to the village.

He is hoping to wm outline planning consent for 26 houses, craft workshops, the conversion of his listed farmhouse and some farmbuildings into eight holiday units and the erection of a new farmbuilse.

WISH

The scheme, affecting about four and a half acres at Higher Farm has been condemned by villagers at a Special parish meeting. The Parish Council of which Mr. Atyeo is a member, are also fighting the project.

"I wish I had never thought of it." farmer Mr. Atyeo told the Echo.

The two-hour debate ended with more than 60 residents voting against the application. They pointed out that Thornombe Outst Beauty vould he'sc

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Running into trouble: Councillor and farmer Jim Atyeo: "I wish I had never thought of it."

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not members of the committees could speak at the discretion of the committee chairmen.

Marshwood Vale County Councillor Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Gibson said the application underlined the need for appraisals of towns and villages designated for development in the Structure Plan.