

Comment

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Event Name	Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 Part One - Publication
Comment by	Mr Stephen McKechnie
Comment ID	LPPub3974
Response Date	23/01/15 14:41
Consultation Point	Core Policy 8: Spatial Strategy for Abingdon-on-Thames and Oxford Fringe Sub-Area (View)
Status	Submitted
Submission Type	Email
Version	0.4
Files	South versus East comparison.pdf

Q1 Do you consider the Local Plan is Legally Compliant? No

Q2 Do you consider the Local Plan is Sound (positively prepared, effective and Justified) No

If your comment(s) relate to a specific site within a core policy please select this from the drop down list. South of East Hanney

If you think your comment relates to the DtC, this is about how we have worked with the Duty to Cooperate bodies (such as neighbouring planning authorities)

Q3 Do you consider the Local Plan complies with the Duty to Co-operate? No

Q4 Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible. If you wish to support

the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

The response

This is an independent response from residents of East Hanney who wish to demonstrate that The Vale's plan to develop to the south of East Hanney is flawed, unjustified, unsustainable and does not show a robust assessment of the new site. We wish to evidence that their original and 'preferred' site to the East has the least impact on flooding, biodiversity and is the most sustainable option.

We are absolutely opposed to the development of the current proposed site in East Hanney.

The following photographs show Brookside in flood, and not in flood, as well as the main road to the school.

Flooding

We are assessed to have a 1 in 100 chance of flooding, we have had four in the last ten years.

A majority of village of East Hanney is between 62 and 64 metres above sea level, Letcombe Brook is 63.65 metres as it enters the village. Here does not have to be

too much of an increase in the level of the brook before the village begins to flood.

To the south of the village and to the west of the brook excess water populates the fields reducing the volumes through the village. It is this area that holds the water, as seen below, which if built over will have an impact on the village downstream from run-off alone.

It is this landscape, which for as far back as records go has acted as a protection to the village, and is therefore susceptible to flooding and must have been influential in the Vale's initial assessment saying part of this area is undeliverable.

Photograph showing the ground water in the distinctive ridge and furrow pattern. All livestock were removed but did not flood, only the gardens of the most southerly properties.

Two further photographs taken that day showing the ridge and furrow patterns taking flood water away from the village. Severe flooding to the village was averted and the centuries old defences did their job, it is these defences on which The Vale propose to build over.

Oxfordshire County Council map 2013 showing natural flow of flood water in East Hanney that forks to the South over the proposed development area and so reducing flow into the village.

The following is an account by residents of East Hanney and their flooding experience.