

30th March 2019

Planning Policy
Vale Of White Horse District Council
135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Abingdon
OX14 4SB

Dear Sir

Ref. Vale Local Plan Part 2 2019

I am replying to the consultation on Part 2 of the Vale's Local Pan to 2031 and wish my objections to be considered:-

- 1. Green Belt NPPF July 2018 covers the protection of Green Belt Land, their openness and permanence and any inappropriate development is harmful except in very exceptional circumstances. No exceptional circumstances have been proven for this removal of such a large area of the Green Belt before 2031, if the Vale could prove the requirement is needed before this date then why have they not substantiated it. They are as bad as the present Government and have disengaged with the local population. In particular you only have to look at Abingdon to see what an awful mess they have made of their local towns. They have approved numerous planning applications, for the wrong kind of houses, without sufficient infrastructure which has resulted in chaos on roads, insufficient medical and educational facilities resulting in diabolic consequences for the present local population.
- 2. The Vale's Local Plan Part 1 adopted in December 2016 designated Shippon as a small village in the Green Belt with limited infilling. Therefore in need of protection from large scale development and again no justification has been given for this to change before 2031. There is sufficient land on Abingdon Airfield to the north, where 1200 houses could be located. If eventually the Army vacates Dalton Barracks and the Operational Area and the present MOD Housing area becomes available then this 1200 homes could be incorporated into a new and distinct settlement which would meet the criteria for a Garden Village which by

definition must be stand-alone and would protect and preserve the small village of Shippon. There is no way this will be needed in the Vale before 2031 and therefore the Inspector has no remit to sanction this proposal for possible future development.

- 3. The Vale's pervious Local Plan to 2011 defined the inset area of Shippon tightly around the Village housing and this was always rigidly adhered to. The Vale have not provided sufficient evidence for this decision to be reversed so that a buffer zone needs to be provided to protect a small village. They have agreed a buffer zone around Whitecross, which is just ribbon development, but have given an ancient small village [mentioned in the Doomsday Book] no protection.
- 4. Therefore Part 1 and Part 2 off the Plan are not in accordance and Part 2 should not be ratified.
- 5. The present Parliamentary chaos of this country makes present forecasting of future needs an impossibility and therefore to take decisions at this time on the Vale's stated requests for post 2031, which requires large areas of land to be removed from the Green Belt inappropriately and cannot in any way be justified, is bordering on criminal. The soundness of the Inspector's decision needs challenging.

Yours sincerely

Madeleine Russell