

APPLETON WITH EATON PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Tamarix, Netherton Road, Appleton, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 5QW

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Appleton and the Green Belt

This document is Appleton with Eaton Parish Council's response to The Vale of White Horse District Council's proposals to make changes to Appleton's Green Belt.

There are approximately 420 properties in the parish with an estimated population of 1000 people, with about 750 people over the age of 18 years old.

The Appleton with Eaton Parish Council's recommendation is that we should have some minor development, which should include starter homes and flats, not only up-market properties. Minor growth should enable the new-comers to be embraced as part of the community, and the integration would be easier to manage. Building smaller properties would make it possible for the young and old to remain in the parish. Larger developments would threaten the character and image of our charming village.

The proposal in the Green Belt Review Phase 3 report should not be accepted on the following grounds:

Area 25 on the map

- Access to this land would be difficult, as the road is narrow and is currently a bridleway.
- There would be health and safety issues as development would mean a road directly outside Appleton's playground.
- The bridleway has wonderful views across the Thames Valley, which will be compromised by development.
- The ground of area 25 is wet, and unsuitable for development.

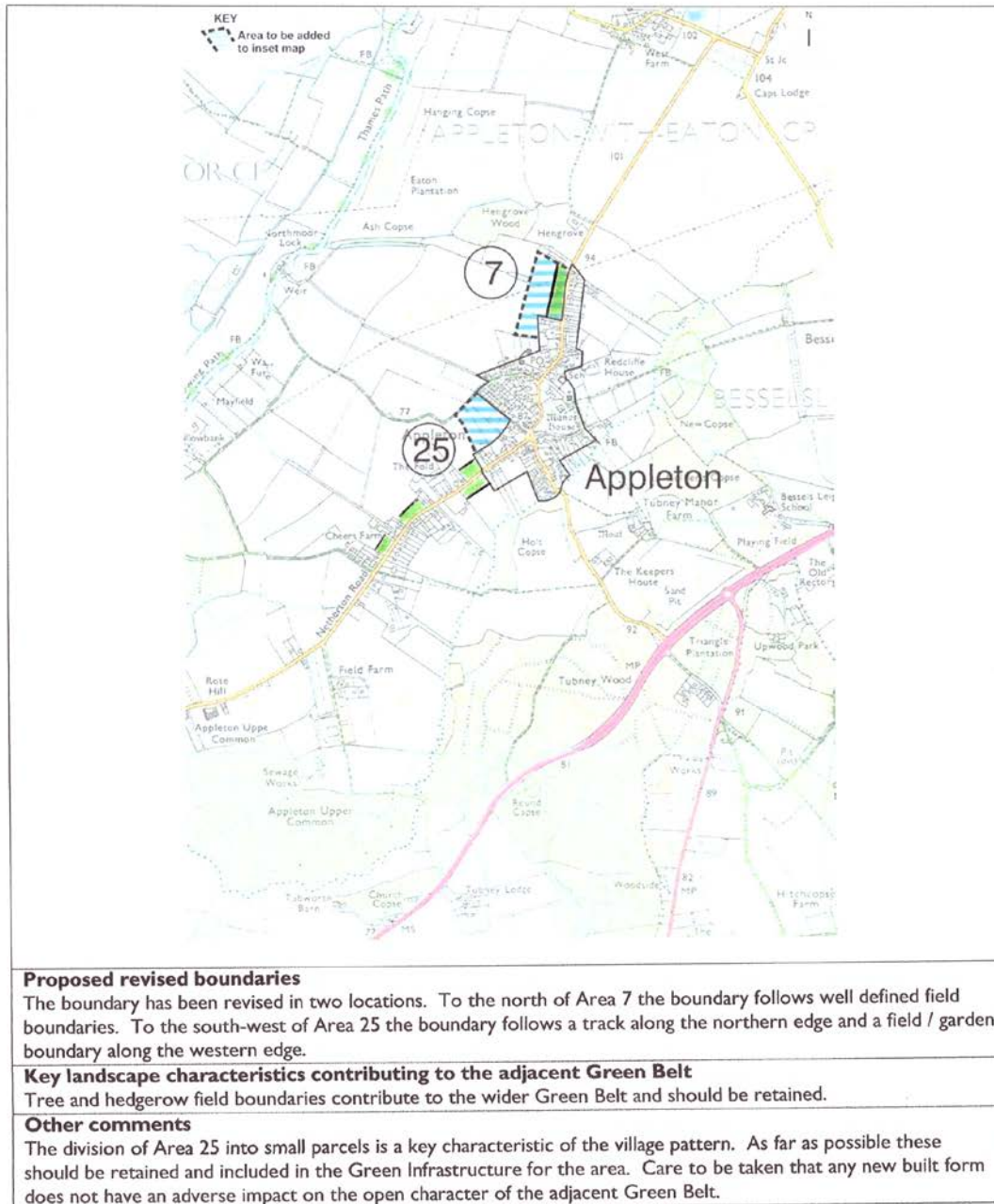
Area 7 on the map

- Whilst we approve of development in this area, it is the Parish Council's opinion that the proposed area is too large and should be reduced to the land only adjacent to Eaton Road in keeping with the width and depth of existing houses (as hatched out on the map).
- The Parish Council does not want development to encroach on the agricultural activity of the adjacent farm buildings.
- We recommend the housing short fall to be made up of the areas marked out in green as shown on the map shown below.

Should the proposed areas as stipulated by the Parish Council be welcomed, the following proposals should be considered:

- Affordable housing
- Provision for housing for the elderly
- Provision for light industrial units
- Possibility of provision of local facilities e.g. a building for Appleton Preschool
- Growth of the village to be gradual e.g. 0.5% to 1% a year, as gradual integration would be easier to manage.

APPLETON: PROPOSED CHANGES

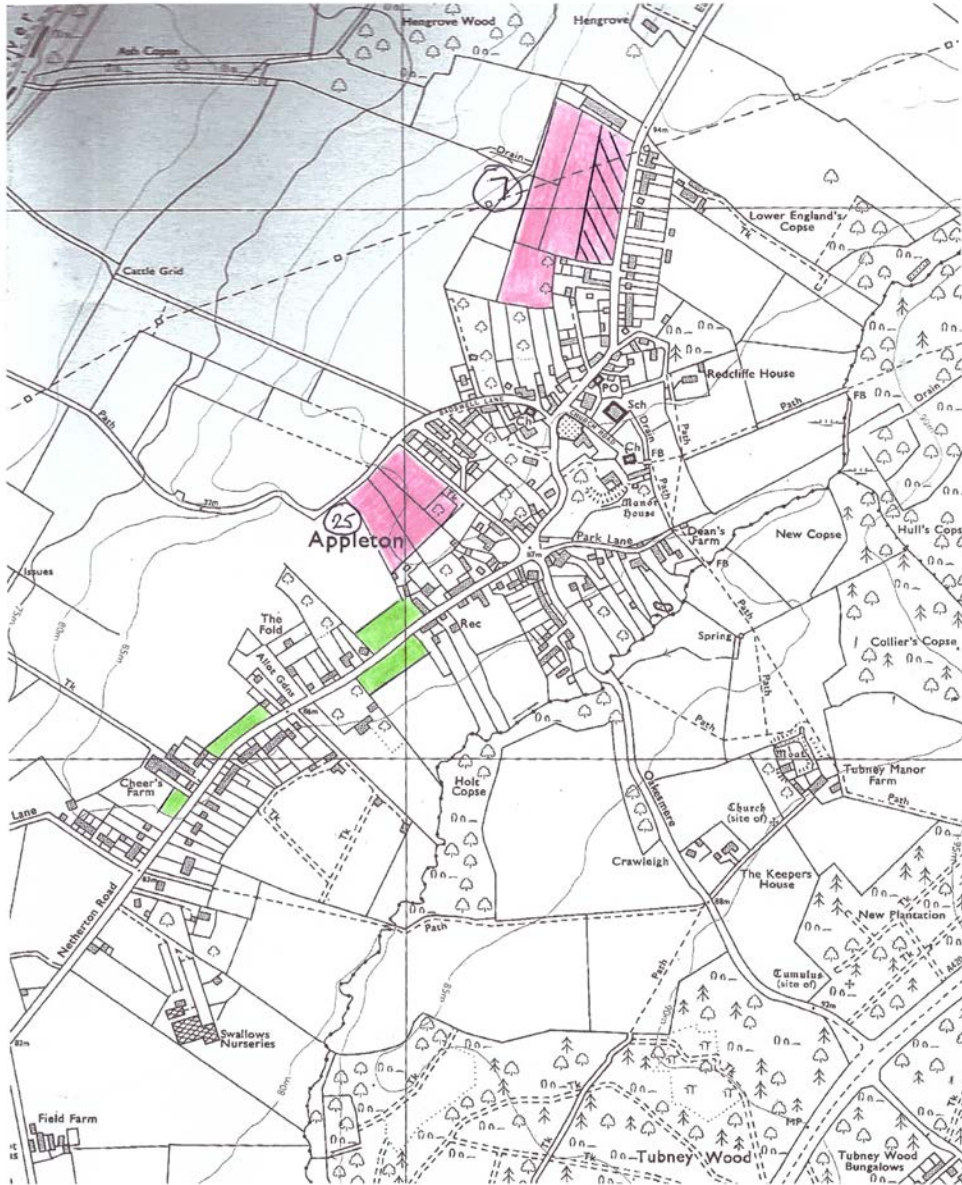


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Red areas are those suggested by the Vale of White Horse: Appleton PC suggest only the hatched section of area 7 and NONE of area 25
Green areas are those suggested by Appleton Parish Council for de-Green Belting in addition to the hatched area of area 7

The areas recommended for de-Green belting do, in two instances (Cheers Farm along the Netherton Road and the Christmas Farm Barn along the Eaton Road) adjoin farm buildings and these areas might be considered appropriate for industrial units. These units could be considered for use by small companies to operate their businesses in or close to their community.

The areas marked out in green are only suggestions that they Parish Council have made, the landowners have not been contacted.

For Appleton to continue to be a vibrant community we welcome limited developments which are in keeping of the character of the village between now and 2031.